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No 63,041

THE TIMES

TUESDAY MARCH 29 1988

30p

Thatcher gets Bank backing in pound row

Inflation the priority says Leigh-Pemberton

David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, the Governor of the Bank of England, yesterday came down publicly on the side of the Prime Minister in the debate over the pound.

In evidence to the all-party House of Commons Treasury and Civil Service Committee, he stressed the defeat of inflation as the first priority of the Government's monetary policy, and said there was no target for the pound.

He specifically ruled out suggestions that the Bank of England was operating a policy of "shadowing" the West German mark, although he said the Government would have some idea of what range the pound should be in at a specific time.

The Governor's emphasis was on flexibility in the approach to the pound and, echoing the Prime Minister, he said there was a limited role for official intervention in the foreign exchange markets. He added: "Intervention is perfectly legitimate provided it does not become a habit."

The Governor fully backed the decision, taken at the behest of the Prime Minister this month, to uncap sterling against the mark. Stability of the exchange rate was desirable, he said, but it had to take second place to the defeat of inflation. That decision was "the acceptance of the inevitability that the pound had to rise from DM3," he said.

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"The overriding objective of monetary policy is this continuing downward pressure on inflation," he said, adding: "Subject to that overriding objective, stability of the exchange rate is very desirable."

Mr Leigh-Pemberton said the Bank of England, in operating monetary policy to bear down on inflation, had to be able to use the three weapons at its disposal – interest rates, the exchange rate and currency intervention – with flexibility.

But he surprised the committee when he said that last year's intervention to hold down the pound – which caused a $20 billion (£11 billion) rise in Britain's foreign currency reserves, was in the nature of "smoothing" undue movements in the exchange rate.

He also caused some surprise by playing down Britain's part in last year's Louvre agreement on stabilizing currencies. Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, has been a firm advocate of the Louvre deal by the Group of Seven countries, which focused on steadying the dollar, but the Governor said Britain had not engaged in much foreign exchange intervention within the context of that agreement.

Asked by Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, the Conservative MP, about the effects on industry of the pound's recent rise to DM3.10, the Governor stressed the need for a tight monetary policy. "I cannot accept that it would be within the interests of industry or the country that we should relax the present monetary stance," he said.

Mr Leigh-Pemberton stressed the continuing concern at the Bank of England over pay trends in the economy. "The increase in earnings and in wage settlements in this country does represent one of the most serious difficulties we have in controlling inflation," he said.

But he added that there was evidence that growth in the economy had slowed down from its strong pace of the second half of last year, and that overheating pressures were moderating.

Asked by Mr John Townend MP about the possibility of a reintroduction of credit controls, the Governor was firm in ruling them out. Hire purchase and other credit controls would no longer be effective, he said.

Mr Leigh-Pemberton's remarks came on a day when the dollar's fall continued on worries about US inflation and the presidential election. The fall, which had been particularly sharp overnight against the Japanese yen, was the principal reason for renewed stock market nervousness.

The dollar's weakness, which has come in spite of an apparent stabilization of the trade deficit, will put pressure on the Federal Open Market Committee – which sets monetary policy in the US – meeting in Washington today and tomorrow.

The dollar had dropped below Y125 in Tokyo overnight, in spite of some central bank intervention. It was quoted at Y124.30 in Tokyo and failed to recover in London, ending at Y124.20.

The pound was firmer, both against the weak dollar and the mark, on the view that the poor February trade figures, released on Friday, will prevent any early cut in base rates, helping to sustain the interest rate differential in sterling's favour.

Leigh-Pemberton: Stressed need for flexible approach

The pound closed 2.1 cents higher at $1.8575 and gained half a pfennig to DM3.0825. The sterling index rose by 0.4 points to 77.1.

Even without short-term concerns about the dollar, there are more fundamental worries.

The sweeping victory of the Reverend Jesse Jackson in the Michigan caucuses was seen as increasing the chances of the election of a US president with policies unfavourable to the financial markets.

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● **With two winners yesterday (see page 3), Portfolio Accumulator still stands at £128,000. Portfolio offers two chances: the daily prize of £4,000, or — if your number is higher than the daily total — the contents of the Accumulator fund.**

Prescott may fight Hattersley

**By Philip Webster
Chief Political
Correspondent**

The prospect of a wider Labour leadership contest opened up last night when Mr John Prescott indicated that he may join Mr Eric Heffer in challenging Mr Roy Hattersley for the deputy leadership.

Mr Prescott, Labour's energy spokesman, made it plain to a meeting of the Tribune Group that he is seriously considering standing and that his union, the National Union of Seamen, has dropped its objections to him entering the race.

His statement came at the end of the meeting after the group had voted by 38 to 16 for a motion condemning the election forced last week by Mr Tony Benn and Mr Heffer as "futile and divisive" and supporting the leadership of Mr Kinnock and Mr Hattersley.

TIMES FOCUS

The Audit Commission has existed for only five years but has already identified massive savings that could be made by local authorities.. **Pages 20,21**

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Four to one majority welcomed by RCN chief

Mr Trevor Clay speaking after the announcement of the result of the RCN poll yesterday (Photograph: Julian Herbert).

Nurses support no-strike policy

**By Jill Sherman
Social Services
Correspondent**

The Royal College of Nursing voted overwhelmingly in favour of keeping its no-strike policy, it was announced last night.

The results of the RCN ballot, a four-to-one majority, will be welcomed by the Government only days before it receives review body recommendations on nurses pay.

The Confederation of Health Service Unions said the ballot would allow the Government to meddle with the pay review body report "without fear of the consequences".

However, Mr Trevor Clay, RCN general secretary, said the result vindicated his view that nurses would never harm patients and showed that his 268,000 members were ready to take trade unionism into the next decade.

Mr Clay announced the establishment of an RCN commission on the future of the National Health Service, which will give evidence to the Prime Minister's review.

The results of the poll of 51 per cent of members showed that a 79 per cent majority, 107,492 to 27,736, were in favour of keeping the union's clause 12 which prohibits members from taking either strike action or more limited forms of industrial action.

Mr Clay said: "Industrial action is either a waste of time or it bites and affects people. Limited industrial action is the slip road to the motorway of strike action."

He said RCN nurses would not stand outside hospitals supporting strike action. "Emergency cover cannot be provided. There are shortages of nurses throughout the country."

The size of the poll and the majority was significantly higher than in 1979, 1980 and 1982 when a no-strike policy was put to the ballot.

Mr Clay attacked criticism that the wording of the ballot question amounted to bias. The ballot paper asked whether members endorsed the RCN's policy against strike action and its opposition to "any form of industrial action which places patients or clients at risk".

The back of the ballot paper put forward a series of arguments in favour of existing policy. Several nurses complained that the question was biased

However the college maintained that a covering note putting forward the executive's view was normal in union ballots.

Disputed Armenian region hit by strike

**From Christopher Walker
Moscow**

In a defiant gesture against the Kremlin, the majority Armenian population in the disputed Transcaucasian region of Nagorno-Karabakh has started a mass protest strike which is paralysing local industry and rail traffic.

Although the area remains out of bounds to all foreign journalists, the effectiveness of the action was revealed yesterday by *Pravda* in what Western observers said was an unprecedented account of a mass work stoppage staged inside the Soviet Union for political purposes.

The newspaper's correspondent said that rail workers in the regional capital of Stepanakert, where more than 75 per cent of the population is Armenian, refused to unload freight last weekend despite the announcement last week of a Kremlin plan to develop the region. Nagorno-Karabakh was handed over to Azerbaijan 65 years ago.

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Pravda stated: "The difficult state of affairs which developed at Stepanakert station and at many enterprises of the region in February and March, due to people's absenteeism from work, has aggravated the situation not only in Nagorno-Karabakh but also, partly, in the entire republic (of Azerbaijan)."

It was the demand, made by most of the estimated 180,000 inhabitants, for the return of the remote and mountainous region to Armenian jurisdiction which sparked the ethnic crisis. The Kremlin has now twice had to send in troops to try to ensure control.

Pravda gave no indication

Continued on page 24, col 7

Fowler orders inquiry into TV and film 'closed shop'

By Roland Rudd and Richard Evans

An inquiry by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission into working practices in television and film production was announced last night by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment.

The investigation, which comes in the wake of the TV-am dispute and government claims of restrictive union practices in the television industry, could result in the first moves to abolish the closed shop throughout British industry.

Mr Fowler appeared to preempt the outcome of the investigation when told the Commons the Government felt there was a prima-facie case that union practices in the film and television industries had begun to "unduly hinder the efficient use of labour" through restrictive practices which threatened competition.

The inquiry into what the Prime Minister has called "the last bastion of trade union restrictive practice" has been under consideration in Whitehall for weeks, but ministers decided to act after the fiasco last month involving the cancellation of *Betty*, a £4.5 million drama series starring Twiggy, commissioned by London Weekend Television.

The Government has been determined to tackle the issues of overmanning, restrictions of non-unionised labour and the use of the closed shop in both the broadcasting and film industry.

Mr Fowler made it clear that if the commission's report, which is expected to reach its conclusion by the end of the year, produced evidence of practices which stifled "free competition" the Government would expect the employer to take firm action to end those practices.

Although *Betty* was to have been made by an independent producer on behalf of LWT, the Musicians Union, supported by Equity, the actors union, refused to allow the drama to be made under the agreement normally governing independent productions.

Not another sexy soap!
SPANISH PRACTICES ON TV..
Palmer

Ministers immediately interpreted the union move as a test case with shop stewards trying to impose old-style restrictive practices

With the Prime Minister already angered by what she saw as union restrictions imposed on Super Channel, ITV's European satellite service, launched by her a year ago, the Government had ample excuse to act.

The Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians, whose 229 members at TV-am were dismissed after they took industrial action before Christmas, condemned the move.

Mr Roy Lockett, deputy general secretary, said: "This reference is an unprecedented attack on free collective bargaining".

Twiggy, who was to have produced as well as starred in *Betty*, said: "In my recent experience with the production of *Betty* as a result of the action of two unions and without prior consultation with their members, over 250 people were denied the right to work, including myself. That is wrong."

Police 'may always have to carry arms'

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

The police may have to be armed permanently if there is a continued increase in the number of shootings, a senior police commander said yesterday after a firearms enthusiast who killed four people was sent to Broadmoor by a Bristol court.

The court was told that police had wanted to revoke Kevin Weaver's shotgun licence 18 months before he battered his mother and sister and shot two men, but they were unable to do so.

Weaver, described yesterday as a psychopath, was found to have four shotguns when he was arrested. He had used two of the weapons, one of which he had fitted with an extended magazine, when he went out to commit the murders. He was arrested by two unarmed traffic officers.

Commenting on the case, Mr John Harland, assistant chief constable of Avon and Somerset, said: "I, my officers and the police service as a whole are reluctant to take on board 24 hours a day arming. However, if the criminal use of arms escalates, and it is progressively doing so, we may have to rethink that issue."

New legislation planned by the Government could make it tougher for shotgun certificates to be obtained but might not make their revocation any easier.

Doubts about Weaver's possession of a certificate were raised in February 1986 when he was found asleep in his car in North Wales with a shotgun and more than 200 cartdriges. His mother had reported him missing.

The Welsh police confiscated the gun and Weaver was examined under the Mental Health Act. He was passed sane and the gun was returned.

Army seals off Palestinians

Jerusalem (AP) – The Israeli Army is to close off the West Bank and Gaza Strip early today for three days in anticipation of disturbances called by the PLO to mark a Palestinian anniversary, an army spokesman said yesterday.

The measure, which is unprecedented since the areas were captured in the 1967 Middle East war, bars independent news coverage and prevents Israelis and Arabs from entering the occupied zones. The only exception is the 65,000 Jewish settlers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip who are not be restricted.

Major General Ephraim Lapid also said the Army also was to close the two bridges across the Jordan River to prevent Palestinians from crossing to Arab countries. Incoming traffic is not be affected, he said.

"Journalists authorized to enter the areas may do so only if accompanied by an IDF (Israeli Defence Forces) representative," he said.

Israel's Cabinet reportedly authorized the measures on Sunday. Israeli officials said the move was intended to lessen tensions tomorrow, when Palestinians will mark Land Day, the 12th anniversary of a 1976 clash between Israeli soldiers and Arabs over the confiscation of Arab land.

"The purpose is to keep the territories quiet. It is not directed specifically against the press, but we don't want to give the people of the areas any reason for causing disturbances," said the official.

Braced for unrest, page 7

Hong Kong camp victims the princess won't see

**From Chris Pommery
Hong Kong**

When the Princess Royal tours the Tuen Mun "closed camp" for Vietnamese refugees next September in her capacity as President of Save The Children Fund she will not see the whole story.

The Save The Children Fund organizes educational and social activities for 1,881 refugees in a camp housing 412 families, 300 single women and 12 unaccompanied children. Some have been held behind double 20 ft fences for six years.

The Princess will see a kindergarten, well stocked with books, crayons and toys. Outside there is grass to play on. Inside, there is semblance of privacy. Three-tiered bunks, 8 ft by 6 ft by 3 ft, can be home for three people on each level.

Tuen Mun is not unpleasant. But what the Princess will not see is the other two camps which make up the Hong Kong Government's "closed camp" policy – Chi Ma Wan and Hei Ling Chau – and which certainly are unpleasant.

Hei Ling Chau is a tiny island on the outer edge of Hong Kong's harbour. It is the closest thing to a penal colony Hong Kong has, and nearly 3,000 refugees share the island with a drug rehabilitation centre.

There is an overspill of 50 people in each hut, so an extra line of bunks has been added in the middle. Two people cannot pass side-by-side in the passage between the bunks. Only toddlers can sit upright on them. Thin cloth on a piece of string separates families.

Hei Ling Chau was built in 1983, a year after the "closed camp" policy of forcible detention was introduced to deter new arrivals. Last year, arrivals outstripped departures for the first time since 1979. Hong Kong's legislators, want to sharpen the deterrent and are furious about Britain's failure to solve the problem.

The Hong Kong Government is pinning its hopes on increased resettlement offers and is reluctant to shift its short-term policy of containment to a long-term strategy of integration.

Lord Glenarthur, Minister of State with responsibility for Hong Kong, recently informed local legislators that Britain was not increasing its 20-a-month quota.

Hong Kong has already taken 14,500 of the 116,300 arrivals in the past 13 years and does not want any more. The direct cost, since 1979, runs to HK$794 million (£55.5 million), or less than Hong Kong's avid punters would bet at two race meetings.

As each side raises the stakes, the refugees and those that guard them are caught in the middle. They are a problem that won't go away.

I visited Hei Ling Chau last Friday. As I left, a small girl, about five years old grasped two of my fingers in one of her hands. She smiled as I exaggeratedly prised myself free, and I felt like poison as the camp door closed behind me.

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Health Departments' Chief Medical Officers

NEWS ROUNDUP

Women in 9-hour handcuff ordeal

Two elderly women, one aged 90, appeared to be making a good recovery yesterday after they had been handcuffed to the staircase of their manor house by thieves who escaped with paintings, silver and antiques worth £10,000.

Miss Henrietta Gaskell, who has run the house on the 2,000-acre Conholt estate near Andover, Hampshire, for 46 years, and her companion, Miss Marjorie Mills, aged 67, spent four hours in the handcuffs and another five cutting themselves free with a file from a toolbox kept under the stairs. The women told the robbers where to find the keys to the safe after the two men threatened to kill Miss Gaskell's labrador dog. The thieves had cut the telephone wire and the electricity supply.

Det Insp Richard West said: "The two men asked the ladies if they would like a drink of Scotch, whereupon Miss Mills replied she would like a gin and tonic so they gave it to her".

Talks at Jaguar

Talks between unions and management at Jaguar in Coventry began yesterday in an attempt to avert a strike by 4,000 manual workers over the company's plans for increased productivity.

Manual workers in Coventry voted by almost two to one last week for a strike if the company proceeded with proposals to produce 92 more cars each week.

● Six thousand Land-Rover workers at Solihull, West Midlands, returned to work yesterday after voting by four to one in a ballot to end their five-week-old strike over pay.

Gay case at GCHQ

A data processor at the Government Communications Headquarters in Cheltenham, suspended after confessing he was homosexual, won the right yesterday to challenge the decision in the High Court.

Mr Andrew Hodges, aged 21, of Grafton Road, Cheltenham, was not in court to hear Mr Terry Munyard, his counsel, describe as "patent nonsense" claims by GCHQ that his homosexuality left him "vulnerable to pressure or blackmail".

His positive vetting clearance was withdrawn last March.

Fumes killed scientist

The eighth Marconi scientist to die in mysterious circumstances was killed by carbon monoxide poisoning, an inquest was told yesterday. Trevor Knight, aged 52, who was found slumped in his car last Friday at his home in Piggot Hill Lane, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, was a computer manager at GEC's plant in Stanmore, Middlesex. Police said that Mr Knight was not engaged in any classified work and would not confirm reports that a hosepipe was connected to his car's exhaust. After Mr Knight's death, Mr Doug Hoyle, Labour MP for Warrington North, called for a government inquiry into the deaths of the scientists who were all involved in defence work.

Freezer foods

The British are, together with the Danes and the Swedes, the largest consumers of frozen foods in Europe. However, consumption, at 21.3kg (47 lb) a year, is still barely more than half the 40.2kg eaten every year in the United States.

A survey by Birds Eye, the frozen food company, shows that just over 5 per cent of our food is bought in frozen form, and expenditure is about £2 billion. The most popular items are fish, green vegetables, burgers and grills, and prepared meals. More than three-quarters of all households own a freezer.

Atlantic speed bid

An American millionaire in a British-built boat and an Italian consortium are to challenge Richard Branson's fastest transatlantic crossing, it was announced yesterday.

Mr Branson, chairman of the Virgin Group, offered a trophy after the Americans refused to recognize his 1986 record of three days, eight hours, 31 minutes.

Mr Tom Gentry will make his attempt on June 15 in a jet propelled yacht. The Italian vessel will be skippered by Signor Cesare Fiorio, director general of Abarth and racing director for Fiat and Alfa Romeo.

Axe attack charges

Everett Watson, aged 46, was charged yesterday with two counts of attempted murder and one of grievous bodily harm after an axe and knife attack on a church congregation. Mr Watson, a panel beater, of Norcot Road, Reading, Berkshire, will appear at Reading, today after attacks on three worshippers at the town's Pentecostal Church of God and Christ United on Sunday.

Solicitors still undecided on mixed partnership

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Law Society council is expected to defer a decision on whether solicitors can form mixed partnerships with other professionals to offer "one stop shopping" services when the issue comes up for reconsideration next month.

The issue, the most divisive the solicitors' profession has faced in recent years, has been deferred once at the society's council meeting last month.

Now a paper is expected to go to next month's council meeting, which sets out a possible strategy on mixed partnerships but which will avoid the need for the council having to vote positively one way or the other.

The paper, still in draft, has been drawn by the standards and guidance committee of the Law Society. It is expected to go soon for approval to the society's key strategy committee and if endorsed there, to proceed to council members.

That is likely to put before solicitors the option of retaining the status quo, which means taking no further action beyond the already agreed package of reforms which allow the solicitors to incorporate; to hive off certain business activities in separate companies and to enter into arrangements with building societies and others for work to be introduced.

Alternatively, the paper will suggest that discussions could be set in train with other professions as to how mixed partnerships might work in practice.

The profession is split over the desirability of allowing solicitors to form mixed partnerships although the Office of Fair Trading is in favour; and in Scotland, the Government has already issued a consultation paper proposing mixed partnerships, to be debated at a meeting today organized by the Law Society of Scotland.

Most Scottish solicitors are thought to be against change to allow mixed practices.

A conference organized recently by the International Bar Association in Vienna, attended by nearly 40 represenatives of European bars, concluded that in the end, governmental and economic pressures would force the introducion of mixed partnerships.

The conference, the findings of which have not been reported, was told that multi-disciplinary or mixed partnerships only occur, and then with limited scope, in The Netherlands and West Germany.

They are prohibited in the rest of Western Europe although it is thought they would be permissible in Denmark, Norway, Spain and The Netherlands.

At the conference, Mr Derek Bradbeer, president of the Law Society of England and Wales, said that in spite of government pressure for the introduction of mixed practices on the asserted ground that it would be in the interests of the consumer, the majority of the profession was against it.

He said that in his view such practices might be accepted only where solicitors were in the majority and retained control, but that might be unacceptable to the Government and other professions.

A six-year delay in a High Court case involving a claim for £6,000 was criticized as a farce by a High Court judge yesterday.

Mr Justice Michael Davies said that if he were a "millionaire judge" he would pay for a full page in a national newspaper to advertise his observations.

He said the delay in the case was caused by the parties themselves, which was unfair to thousands of other people waiting for their cases to be tried.

Many people felt the delays were caused by the courts, but often, as in this case, they were not, he said.

The judge said costs in the case, by the time it came to trial, would probably be several times the £6,000 claimed.

Mr Justice Davies has been appointed by the Lord Chief Justice to take charge of the listing of cases in the Queen's Bench division, with a view to cutting delays.

He has taken a number of steps to ease the backlog.

Spot checks are being carried out after complaints by judges that they are not being fully utilized.

More cases are being listed as "floating" so that vacant slots can be filled at short notice.

Mr Justice Davies has also recommended that people who suffer delays caused by lawyers in pursuing claims should be entitled to attend court to be told publicly the reasons for any hold-up, instead of being told by the lawyers afterwards.

King calls talks after Hume sees the Provos

By John Cooney and David Nicholson-Lord

A fresh attempt to break the deadlock among Northern Ireland's mainstream political parties will be made today in Belfast by Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

Mr King will meet a delegation from the Social Democratic and Labour Party, the constitutional nationalist party, headed by Mr John Hume.

As pressure continued to mount on the Government yesterday to regain the initiative from the paramilitaries, it was disclosed that Mr Hume held further talks last week with Sinn Fein, the political wing of the IRA.

It was confirmed yesterday that the SDLP-Sinn Fein "summit" was held last Wednesday only four days after the killing of two soldiers by an IRA mob in West Belfast. However, the Provisionals made clear last night there was no hope of a ceasefire.

Despite hostile Unionist reaction to the news of the meeting between the military and constitutional nationalist sides, no substantial damage appeared to have been done to Mr King's attempt to build up the momentum for political dialogue.

Mr Hume was given a vote of confidence by his party at the weekend for his exploratory talks with Sinn Fein which aimed to produce an end to IRA violence.

However, Mr Edward McGrady, MP for South Down, voiced misgivings that those talks with extreme republicans might jeopardize the prospect of fruitful dialogue with the Unionists.

Mr Gerry Adams, the head of Sinn Fein, said it would be misleading to connect his party's talks with Mr Hume to the SDLP's discussions with Mr King.

Mr Adams said that the only way in which Mr King could play a constructive role in talks was "to organize the British Government to leave Ireland".

Mr Adams defended the discussions. "John Hume and myself are the only people, against a background of consistent appeals by church leaders and others for talking, who are prepared to grasp the nettle and engage in the exchange of political views."

Mr Hume has also reacted positively to a weekend gesture from Mr James Molyneaux, the leader of the Official Unionists, for a wider political debate outside the context of the Anglo-Irish agreement.

Mr Hume described as encouraging the new fluidity of politics in Northern Ireland. Mr Molyneaux had said Unionists wanted an end to the ancient quarrel between Britain and Ireland.

The strongest criticism, however, of Mr Hume's continuation of talks with Sinn Fein came from Mr Peter Robinson, the deputy leader of the more hardline Democratic Unionists.

He said that Mr Hume was engaged in a rescue mission of the IRA which had lost credibility for its perpetration of the Poppy Day massacre in Enniskillen and its murder of the two soldiers.

Last night, a group of leading Ulster Unionists launched a campaign for a devolved parliament and government in Northern Ireland with provision for a Bill of Rights, a referendum, and involvement of the Roman Catholic community at ministerial level.

A key feature of the proposals is the creation of a regional Ulster government with substantial powers over legislation, finance and security, to be set up only after a referendum which expressed a demonstrable "cross community majority" in its favour.

Backers of the proposals, who are to mount a publicity campaign, include Mr Harry West, the former Unionist leader, and Mr John Gorman, former chairman of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive.

Mr Peter McLachlan, a Belfast charity director and chairman of the group, condemned "recent acts of carnage and savagery done in the name of political objectives".

Both Irish unity and integration with the United Kingdom were passports to "perpetual political violence", Mr McLachlan added: "The only way in which such violence can be effectively controlled and ultimately eliminated is for the decent law abiding majority of Catholics and Protestants, Unionists and nationalists, to become responsible together for restoring and maintaining law and order".

Two men were being questioned last night about the killing of Corporal Derek Wood and Corporal David Howes. The men were arrested on Saturday.

Left-wing leaders of a branch of Nalgo, the local government union, are refusing to rescind a letter of sympathy sent to the families of the three IRA bombers killed in Gibraltar.

Moderate members of the union's branch in Hammersmith, west London, voted at an extraordinary meeting last week to withdraw the letter, which condemned what it called the Government's "tyranny and oppression".

The executive does not propose to discuss the issue until after Easter. Union members predicted mass resignations unless action was taken.

Images for the Duchess

Sir Roy Strong, author of *Beaton Royal Portraits*, presents the Duchess of York with a boxed set of seven photographs at the fair, including one of the Duke of York as a baby.

By Andrew Billen

The Duchess of York opened the largest London International Book Fair yesterday with no one quite sure whether it deserved its place on the literary map:

The fair started life 17 years ago at the Small and Specialist Publishers Exhibition for Librarians with only 23 exhibitors.

Now there are more than 420 stands sprawling over three levels at Olympia. The fair's original purpose — to sell books to librarians — has been obscured by the ambitions of organizers who want it eventually to rival the giant annual Frankfurt book fair where last year 700 companies from Britain alone exhibited.

Mr Matthew Evans, chairman of Faber & Faber, said little important business would be done at Olympia.

Both Macmillan and Century Hutchinson have boycotted this year's fair.

Mr Anthony Cheetham, chairman of Century Hutchinson, has accused it of being unable to make up its mind whether it is there to help sell foreign rights or simply books to booksellers in Britain.

Mr Michael Turner, president of the Publishers Association, speaking at the opening of the fair, said its strength was that it could be both.

The Duchess of York was greeted by record crowds and *Publishing News*, the trade weekly, is producing a daily edition as the fair tries to come of age.

It is taking place against the background of a publishing industry transformed in the past year by a furious round of takeovers and mergers that have boosted the value of publishing houses.

The mergers and consolidations have not stopped the growth in the number publishers in Britain, amounting to a fairly credible 13,000 at the last count.

Nor has it reduced the number of titles published, nearly 60,000 last year and up by almost 5,000 in two years.

However, it has widened the gap between the big fish and the sprats. The Publishing Association said: "The big are getting bigger and the small are getting more specialist. For those in the middle it is a fast and exciting time, although that may be a euphemism."

Perhaps it was appropriate that the literary agent Mrs Deborah Owen, wife of the SDP leader, was last night due to sing at a fair review entitled "Pandemonium".

Badger author's US fortune

By Andrew Morgan

The publishing success story of Mr Aeron Clement, a prematurely retired South Wales businessman, who has made a fortune from his first novel about a family of badgers, took another lucrative turn yesterday when a publisher bought the American rights for $250,000 (about £135,000).

Mr Clement, aged 53, who was forced to retire after a series of heart attacks, has sold the British rights for £140,000 to Penguin Books after he and a partner had published privately an initial print run of 5,000 copies.

He was due to have a heart by-pass operation tomorrow at a Southampton hospital but his consultant has postponed the operation for four weeks because he believes the present excitement is not conducive to surgery.

Mr Clement, already compared with Richard Adams, author of *Watership Down*, heard yesterday of the American deal with the publishers Dellacourt, as he was promoting his book, *The Cold Moons*, at the London Book Fair at Olympia.

Dutch rights were also expected to be sold yesterday and there was intense interest from Italy, Sweden, Spain and France. Fierce negotiations over film rights are also taking place with Hollywood.

The novel evolved after Mr Clement, from Llandeilo, Dyfed, retired from his job as managing director of a building firm and he took to watching wildlife.

He saw, one day, that a badger had had its back broken by gangs of baiters to make it easier for dogs to attack. He was appalled, and after months talking about it with his wife, he was persuaded to write it down in fiction form.

The novel took several years in gestation and early reactions from publishers were unfavourable.

Mr Clement showed it to Mr Bernard Kindred, his local public house landlord, who liked it so much that he suggested a publishing partnership.

Industry fails to back Sci-tech

By Robert Matthews
Technology Correspondent

Plans for the first national exhibition to encourage children to become scientists and technologists have collapsed, and organizers blame the failure of British companies to respond.

Sci-tech '88, scheduled to take place in June, was the idea of Professor Paul Cook, of Brunel University, who has won backing from the Prince of Wales for his creation of a trust for the promotion of science among young people.

Last summer Professor Cook joined the owners of Brands Hatch to stage the exhibition, in which British companies were to show the results of their latest research in an effort to fire the interest of schoolchildren in scientific careers.

However, the racing circuit organizers have decided to pull out, claiming that British industry failed to provide tangible support for the venture, despite initial enthusiasm.

A member of the organizing team said yesterday only 30 per cent of the total exhibition space was sold, and he estimated that the losses would be in excess of £100,000. He said that the impression received by the organizers was that the companies failed to support the venture because they could not see an immediate return on their investment.

Professor Cook said yesterday that more than 800 schools had shown an interest in the exhibition.

Ford rules out move on Rover

By Daniel Ward

Ford has ruled out making a hostile bid for Rover Group in opposition to British Aerospace. Only in the highly unlikely event of the BAe bid failing would Ford respond to a government approach and re-enter the bidding it is understood.

Two years ago the Government encouraged Ford to consider a takeover or merger with Austin Rover but the company retreated amid a political furore that came in the wake of the Westland affair and General Motors' abortive attempts to win control of Land Rover as part of a deal to rescue the loss making Leyland Trucks operation.

Within Austin Rover, a handful of former Ford employees and other executives worked to defeat the Ford takeover.

The strength of the political backing for the "British solution" for privatizing Rover has convinced Ford, it is understood, that even offering a generous price for the state-owned car maker would not defeat BAe.

Botham's raft trip threatened

The planned crossing of the Rhone by Ian Botham, the England cricketer, on an open raft with three elephants was in jeopardy yesterday after the French Army withdrew from the venture.

Botham intends to navigate the fast-flowing river at Montfacon, near the southern French town of Orange next week, as part of his 500-mile fund-raising expedition in the footsteps of Hannibal, the Carthaginian general.

The French had promised a raft for Botham's crossing but on Friday the expedition's British sponsors, the General Portfolio Group, were told it would no longer be available.

No formal reason has been given by the army but Mr Mervyn Edgecombe, the project director, said the decision had nothing to do with the Australian fine on Botham last week.

The French pull-out means that the cricketer's march into Orange with military band may also be abandoned.

The expedition's organizers are trying to mount a civilian operation and were yesterday seeking the help of John Blashford-Snell, the British explorer.

A main problem is that the Rhone is in spate at this time of year; an earlier plan had been to use giant British Army inflatables but they were considered too light and too expensive to transport.

The Rhone crossing had been arranged as the centrepiece of Botham's sponsored walk from Perpignan to Turin to raise money for leukaemia research.

Botham fined, page 48

Buying The Times overseas
Austria Sch 29; Belgium B Frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 200; Cyprus 80 cents; Denmark Dkr 12.00; Finland Mkk 9.00; France F 9.00; W Germany DM 3.50; Gibraltar 70p; Greece Dr 200; Holland Gl 3.50; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 3.000; Luxembourg Lf 45; Madeira Esc 200; Malta 35c; Morocco Dir 12.00; Norway Kr 10.00; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 200; Singapore $8.50; Spain Pes 200; Sweden Skr 12.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 1.00; USA $2.00; Yugoslavia Din 3.000.

Post price freeze for summer

By David Sapsted

The freeze on the cost of posting letters was extended yesterday until the end of August.

Sir Bryan Nicholson, the Post Office chairman, promised last year that the 18p first class stamp and the 13p second class would be held until this Easter and yesterday, in the wake of record business, he announced the decision to extend the freeze.

Mail costs might not rise even then, for the Post Office said yesterday that no decision had been made on future prices. First class postage last went up, by 1p, in 1986 after a two-year freeze.

"In real terms, the cost of postage has come down by 12 per cent in the past five years. This, in itself, has led to record levels of business", the Post Office said.

City calls for £3bn rail improvements

By Rodney Cowton
Transport Correspondent

British Rail's Network South-East and London Underground may need to spend an extra £3 billion on improved rail facilities to cope with the growth of traffic into the City of London, a commuter pressure group said yesterday.

Launching a study of of the future needs of City commuters, Mr Derek Pelly, a former deputy chairman of Barclays Bank, said the present situation for commuters was "unsatisfactory and unacceptable". Unless something was done the future looked "very grim".

Present plans for investment in consumer services, about £2 billion over the next five years, appeared to be inadequate. There was a huge task to do putting right the problems of today, let alone coping with future growth.

He did not know how much additional investment would be needed but £3 billion was a possible figure.

It is not thought that wholesale privatization of public transport would work and the brunt of investment costs would have to be borne initially by the Government.

The study was carried out by the City Commuter Services Group, of which Mr Pelly is chairman, which represents a wide spread of City activities. It is based on a questionnaire sent to more than 5,000 city firms. Of those, 750 firms employing 179,000 people responded.

The group says that inadequate provision of commuter facilities could encourage financial institutions to leave the City and jeopardize its £9.5 billion contribution to the balance of payments.

Nearly all respondents thought it was "vital" that the existing quality of commuter services should be maintained and nearly two thirds thought they should be improved.

The three aspects of commuter services most frequently criticized were punctuality, overcrowding and insufficient trains early in the day and later in the evenings.

One firm commented that more man-hours were lost because of train cancellations and delays than through any other cause.

In the five years up to 1992 City employment was forecast to grow by 16 per cent, although it is thought that may now be delayed by two years as a result of last October's stock market crash.

The report criticizes the age of BR rolling stock, which is 47 years old on the Waterloo and City line. It also cites London Underground's Central Line which carries 25,000 passengers an hour at peak times, against a planned capacity of 18,000.

Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, is expected to name in June the transport system which will provide a fast link from central London to Heathrow Airport. He has received proposals from British Rail for a service from Paddington, and from London Underground which has put forward plans for a high-speed service linked to the Tube network, with limited stops outside central London.

Office bar on County Hall

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

County Hall, that most desirable property standing across the Thames from the Houses of Parliament, is looking not only for a new owner two years after the Greater London Council was abolished, but also for a practical role.

The possible options for the listed building, opened by King George V in 1922 and completed in 1933, are narrowing after the High Court yesterday refused planning permission for its use as offices "for any purpose".

The judgement by Mr Justice Brown provides the latest set-back in the plans of the London Residuary Body, which was set up to dispose of the GLC's assets, to get on with the sale of the jewel in its crown. A planning inquiry held last year decided that County Hall should continue to be used as local government offices, and came down against its use as a hotel, or as luxury flats or general offices.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, opposed his inspector on its office potential, and overruled him. Yesterday's High Court decision came after the Inner London Education Authority (Ilea), London Fire and Civil Defence Authority, the London Waste Regulation Authority and the Borough of Lambeth, all faced with eviction, came together to fight Mr Ridley's decision.

It is likely that Mr Ridley will appeal against the High Court ruling, for the Government is determined to dispose of the complex privately, taking it away from local authority use.

When the agent, Richard Ellis, launched a marketing campaign for the complex at the end of 1986, it envisaged County Hall becoming a hotel with a mixture of residential space, leisure and retail outlets, conference facilities and offices. While it did not rule out the use of the whole complex as offices, it thought offices would be much more suitable for the four satellite blocks.

It was originally intended that the complex would be sold freehold, with vacant possession, at a price estimated at between £100 million and £300 million, depending on use, by March 31 this year, but with only two days to go, Ilea is still there.

صكتا من الاجل

‘I wanted to kill my girl. I saw her and changed my mind. I still like her’

Hungerford copycat killer sent to Broadmoor

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

A gun enthusiast who modelled himself on Michael Ryan and studied the Hungerford massacre killed four people as he sought revenge on his former fianceé, a court in Bristol was told yesterday.

Kevin Weaver, aged 24, an unemployed clerk, was sent to Broadmoor for life after pleading guilty to the manslaughter of his mother, sister and two men last October.

In court he was described as a psychopath whose depressive condition impaired responsibility for the deaths.

In the space of a few hours he bludgeoned his mother and sister to death and then went in search of Miss Alison Woodman, aged 21, who had broken off her engagement to him, at the factory where she worked.

Miss Woodman, saved by a gunman's change of mind.

Two men died as Weaver ran amok. When he found Miss Woodman the gunman decided to spare her and was arrested in his car by two unarmed traffic policemen.

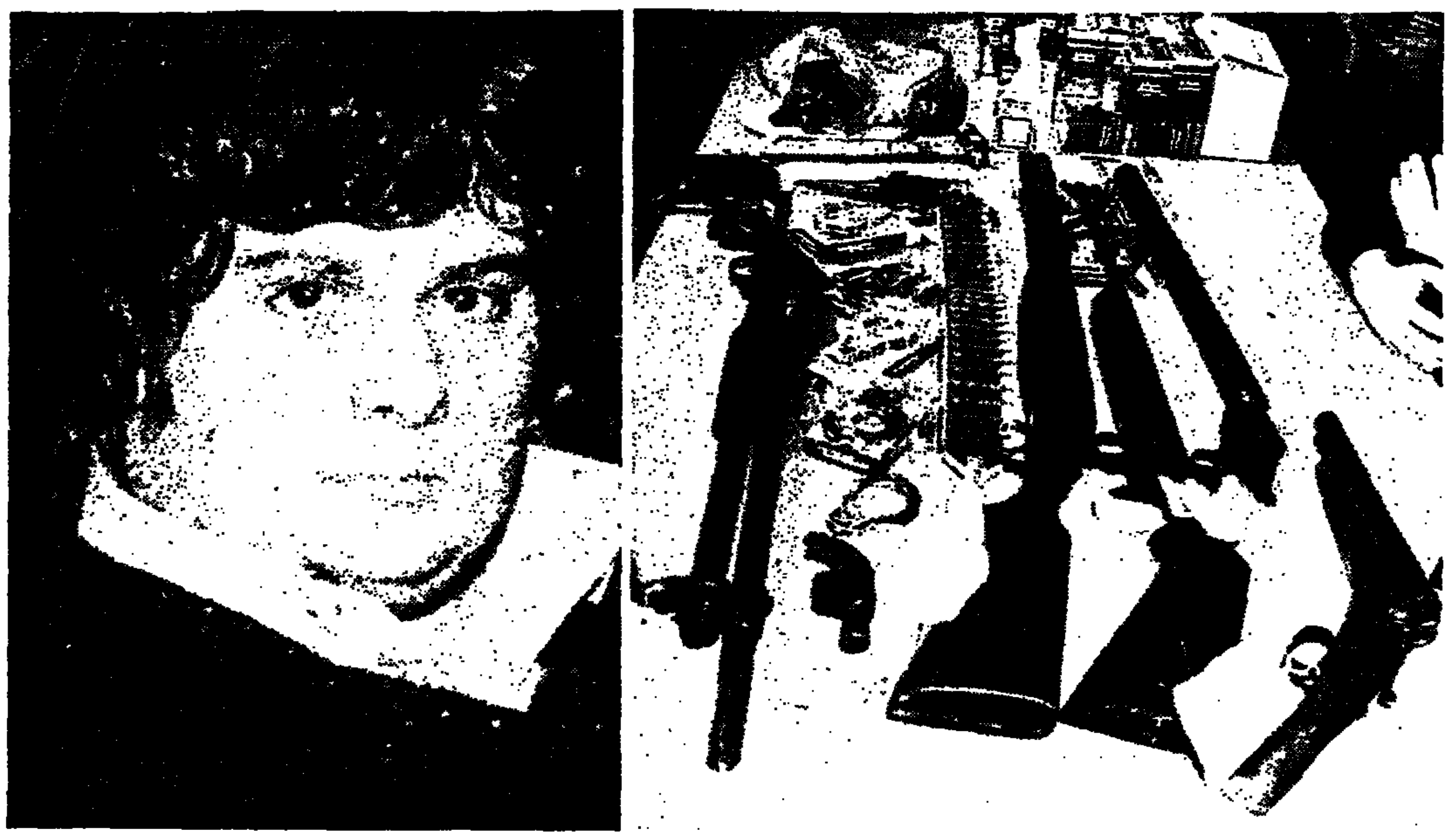
Weaver told them: "Was it only two? I thought I had shot at least three people. You will find my gun in the car. I just wanted to shoot my girl friend as well. You were lucky I did not shoot you."

He told the officers he had intended to kill Miss Woodman. "For the past two years I have wanted to kill her – to punish her. But as soon as I saw her I changed my mind. I still like her", he said.

He asked what had happened to his home. When police arrived there they found that the terrace house, where his family lay, had been turned into a crude bomb using the domestic gas supply.

Yesterday Weaver, his arms folded, pleaded not guilty to murdering his mother Margaret, aged 55, and sister Linda, aged 27, found at the family home in Roseberry Park, Redfield, Bristol, on October 14 last year.

He also pleaded not guilty to murdering David Pursall, 29, a computer manager and former policeman, of Downend Park Road, Downend, Bristol, and John Peterson, aged 48, an accountant, of Paddock Gardens, Alveston, near Bristol, the same day. They were killed with a shotgun in the factory of Alexandra Workwear at Patchway in the northern outskirts of Bristol.



The man and the arms: Kevin Weaver, the psychopathic killer, and weapons he had in his car during a murder spree after his girl friend rejected him.

Weaver pleaded guilty to manslaughter on all four deaths. Mr Paul Chadd, QC, for the prosecution, said the Crown would not pursue the murder charges in view of medical reports but would accept pleas of guilty to manslaughter.

Before the prosecution outlined the case against Weaver, Mr Justice Webster agreed to allow the defendant to wait outside court. The court was told Weaver that felt that hearing the horrors of the attack again would affect him.

Opening the case, Mr Chadd told the court Weaver taped part of the television coverage of Ryan's Hungerford killings and thought of visiting the Berkshire town, Mr Chadd said.

Weaver's bloody trail in Bristol bore marked similarities. Like Ryan, Weaver killed his mother, set fire to his house, was obsessed with guns and had body armour.

The court heard Weaver ordered a flak jacket from a supplier of military goods, specifying it should be capable of stopping a .38 bullet, which is the standard handgun ammunition used by police.

Mr Chadd said: "Police saw Weaver as an appalling danger to the public. His detachment from reality was chilling." At one point his only comment on the affair was to complain to police that he had not been given the morning paper he asked for.

Describing events last October Mr Chadd said Weaver was living with his mother and sister in their terrace house. Previously he worked as an accounts clerk with an engineering company where he met and went out with a Miss Woodman. They became engaged in 1983 but two years later she ended it.

"He was undoubtedly very upset but we remained on speaking terms and occasionally had a drink together", she said later.

Weaver told police he wanted to kill Miss Woodman to punish her. His original plan was to kill her as she made her way to work and he reconnoitred the area deciding that his plan was unworkable.

He began his attack by killing his family because he did not want them hurt if he went to prison. He bludgeoned his mother and sister to death using two hammers.

On the morning of the killings Weaver drove to the factory, walking in with a shotgun hidden in a golf bag. Also in the car were a Soviet shotgun, another sawn-off shotgun and up to 800 rounds of ammunition. He strode past a startled receptionist to the computer room which he had seen on an earlier sortie.

Entering the room he laid down the bag and withdrew a shotgun. As he grabbed for Miss Woodman he said: "Come on, we're going". She ran away, slipping below a table for safety as he fired the first shot. In the pandemonium more shots were fired and the two men were fatally injured.

Weaver later told police: "A bloke came towards me so I just shot him. He was screaming so I shot him again. I did not want him to be in pain."

Mr Pursall was gunned down when he approached Weaver. Police believe the former policeman was trying to disarm the gunman.

Another shot tore through partitioning and injured Mr Peterson who died on way to hospital.

Portfolio
—PLUS NEW—
Accumulator

Winner to opt for hot water

A retired prison officer will be happily in hot water after sharing the Portfolio daily prize of £4,000 yesterday.

Mr Horatio Woodward, aged 69, of Hanley Road, Hull, North Humberside, said he would pay for a new shower unit and share the rest with his son Nigel.

The other winner, Mr David Lumsdon, aged 46, of Palfrey Close, St Albans, Hertfordshire, said he planned to spend the money on his architecture business and on a holiday for his wife and three children.

Doctor to give evidence for young killer

The Court of Appeal yesterday adjourned the case of a young woman who received a life sentence last year for killing her mother, to hear new evidence from a specialist in pre-menstrual tension.

The doctor claims that the responsibility of Anne Lousie Reynolds, aged 19, of Brackley, Northamptonshire, for the killing was diminished.

Madeira is a paradise for walkers

Camacha, Madeira (Reuter) – Most visitors to Portugal's Atlantic island of Madeira come to breathe the fresh sea breeze, bask in the warm climate or taste its famous wine. But Madeira is little known for one of its prime attractions – miles of paths winding through beautiful scenery that make it a paradise for walkers.

Stabbed girl ‘a butterfly wanting to be free’

Mother appeals to parents

By Craig Seton

The mother of a murdered girl aged 13 appealed to parents yesterday to warn their children about walking alone. She said she forgave her daughter's killer.

Mrs Beryl Baldwin, aged 41, said she had told her daughter Carol about the dangers of going out by herself. However, her daughter, who was described by a Methodist minister as a "butterfly who wanted to be free", believed she could defend herself.

Mrs Baldwin, of South Holme Court, Northampton, said: "Young people of today think their parents are old-fashioned and do not know what they are talking about.

"But as parents we have got to be firm and tell them these things do happen and they have got to be so careful."

Mrs Baldwin and her husband Terence, aged 40, a production worker, were speaking two days after their daughter was killed by a single knife blow in the back as she took a short cut across a football pitch near her home.

Detectives believe Carol may not have heard her killer because she was listening to her personal cassette stereo player. Taped pop music was still playing when her body was found by four youths.

Mrs and Mrs Baldwin, who have twin daughters aged 11 and a son aged 18 months, are regular churchgoers. When asked if she forgave her daughter's killer, Mrs Baldwin hesitated then whispered: "Yes".

She said: "I feel sorry for him. There was no reason for it unless it was mistaken identity. He could not have wanted to kill her. If anybody knows anything, they must come forward for that person's sake because he obviously needs help."

The Rev Elizabeth Mayes, a local Methodist minister, said Carol was a "butterfly" who "wanted to be free to enjoy life and resented any kind of restriction or restraint".

The police believe they have traced one of two men seen near the murder scene. Officers were hoping to interview the man.

Meanwhile, police in Kent are continuing a hunt for a knife attacker after the death of Amanda Hopkinson, aged 17, an estate agent employee, of Summerhouse Drive, Bexley, south-east London, who was found on an isolated track near Dartford last Saturday. She died later in hospital.

● A woman police officer will retrace the steps of Deborah Ann Linsley, aged 26, whose body was found in a British Rail train at Victoria Station, London, last Wednesday, in a search for clues to her killer. The officer will ride in the same compartment on the 2.16pm Orpington to Victoria train from Petts Wood station, Kent, tomorrow.

An inquest into the death of Miss Linsley, a hotel front-of-house manager, of Lakeside Drive, Bromley, Kent, was adjourned yesterday.

Traffic safety move

Camera traps for motorists

By Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent

The police are to back the use of cameras at road junctions to photograph motorists who jump traffic lights. The police "spies" could be in widespread use before the end of the year.

Mr Peter Joslin, chief constable for Warwickshire and secretary of the Association of Chief Police Officers traffic committee, said yesterday: "These cameras are very effective and we are encouraging their use".

No change in existing traffic law will be needed for the cameras to be introduced because corroboration is not required for the successful prosecution of motorists jumping red traffic lights. Police will have to wait only for approval from the Home Office's Police Requirement Unit before cameras can be used.

"The beauty of a camera at the roadside is that driver behaviour improves immeasureably", Mr Joslin added.

There will soon be three sets of police trials of camera-linked computer equipment for photographing speeding motorists. A change in the law would be necessary for their use but Mr Joslin is confident this will be included in the North Committee review of traffic law now being considered by ministers.

These sophisticated cameras, already widely used in Germany and The Netherlands, will prove particularly useful in motorway contraflows, which will soon be subject to a mandatory 50mph speed limit. This will be difficult for police to enforce due to the difficulty of stopping offenders.

Cameras placed at two road junctions for a six months' experiment in Nottingham have significantly reduced the number of drivers jumping traffic lights.

At one junction the number of motorists crossing when the lights have signalled stop has been reduced from 22 a day to eight.

No accident figures are yet available to indicate if the cameras have brought about a reduction in collisions. Nottingham City Council said yesterday: "The cameras are supposed to act as a deterrent and not to increase prosecutions". The council is still discussing with Nottingham police whether such photographs are admissible evidence for prosecution.

Whitehall stress test funds cut

By David Cross

Research to find out whether Civil Servants can be cured of raised blood pressure by meditation and other relaxation techniques may be abandoned because of a lack of funds.

The three-year study into a group of 1,000 middle-aged Civil Servants suffering from mild hypertension has been financed mainly by grants of £289,000 from the Health Promotion Research Trust and a small grant from the Medical Research Council.

Half of the group, which was drawn from 11,000 Civil Servants, aged between 35 and 55, at 11 government departments, were given standard treatment including advice on diet, exercise and reducing smoking and drinking.

The other half were attending relaxation therapy courses at the University College, London, and Middlesex Hospital. Part of the treatment involved attaching monitoring machines to find out how deeply they could relax using meditation techniques.

However, the trust said initial results showed the changes in blood pressure had not been as dramatic as had been hoped. That would make it difficult to draw clear conclusions from any of the evidence collected. As a result, the trust had decided not to renew its grant.

Dr Chandra Patel, senior lecturer in community medicine at University College, said: "This is most unfortunate because we believe that relaxation techniques could be a better way to prevent heart attacks than using drugs and we have never had such a large group of people in one experiment".

Professor Michael Marmot, head of the department, said the investigation was going as well as expected. He was confident another sponsor could be found so long-term research could be carried out. "We have been working in close collaboration with the Civil Servants in our sample and had great cooperation from their bosses and their union representatives".

Remand after ‘publicity stunt’ siege

A six-hour police siege costing £250,000 and involving 300 officers on Saturday stemmed from an elaborate publicity stunt, a court was told yesterday.

Stuart Riches, aged 39, a former security guard, rang the *News Of The World* newspaper, claiming that he was holding hostage Wendy Neil, aged 20, and her daughter Louise, aged two, at a house in Kensington Gardens, Ilford, north-east London, where they were staying.

The call sparked off a police operation involving armed marksmen and helicopters, Mr Roger Daniells-Smith, for the prosecution, told magistrates at Redbridge, north-east London.

Mr Riches had set up the siege, with the help of other tenants, to publicize the plight of people living in homes funded by the Department of Health and Social Security.

Mr Riches was charged with unlawfully imprisoning Alan Aseez, aged 48; threatening to Det Sergeant David Warner that he would kill Mrs Neil and her daughter; and possession of an imitation Colt .45 revolver with intent.

He was remanded in custody.

Tonight's big match
Edward Woodward v the KGB.

CODENAME KYRIL
Edward Woodward plays the
Chief of MI6 and Ian Charleson
a KGB officer on the run in this
tense 2-part Cold War spy-thriller.
TONIGHT AND
TOMORROW 9.00 pm.
AN HTV PRODUCTION
IN ASSOCIATION WITH INCITO A.S

Bid to plug £400m building site drain

By Our Crime Reporter

Building site thefts and vandalism are costing the industry more than £400 million a year with losses ranging from petty theft to the removal of mechanical equipment.

A conference at the Home Office today will seek new ways to combat the problem, against a background of incidents including the loss of generators, JCBs, an entire site office and a £218,000 ditching machine driven away from a motorway site.

The machine, weighing 20 tons, was the only one of its kind in the country and was last seen on the back of a lorry going through the Dartford Tunnel after being stolen from a Kent motorway.

The £400 million loss, calculated by the Building Employer's Confederation, is only the tip of the iceberg, according to Mr Frederick Morris, the confederation's director of security.

Thefts can include anything from a few items of material for do-it-yourself to the loss of plant worth more than £90 million last year.

In a survey of 16 companies Mr Morris discovered their losses included 130 compressors, 199 generators, five trucks and four sets of traffic lights. The lights were used by road gangs and two sets were taken when workmen had a teabreak.

The site office disappeared after a security guard left it to go on patrol. His television set also vanished.

Mr Morris said he believed that most of the material was recycled within the building industry.

"It is so difficult to identify machinery. If we could get some nationwide marking system that would prevent stuff going. Around 80 per cent of the thefts are preventable", he said.

Mr Morris, a former senior detective, runs a security advisory service for the building industry and is setting up a national network of crime committees. The committees can tap into information gathered by the confederation and organize local campaigns.

The results achieved by a crime committee formed by the confederation's Gwynedd branch and North Wales police last year were so encouraging, that Mr Morris contacted Mr John Patten, Minister of State at the Home Office, who decided to hold today's conference. It will be attended by leading representatives of the industry and police chiefs.

Opposition calls for review of Ilea schools

EDUCATION

Mr Kenneth Baker should have the guts to reply on the debate on the abolition of the Inner London Education Authority, Mr Jack Straw, chief Opposition spokesman on education, said on the final day of the report stage of the Education Reform Bill.

He was moving an amendment deleting a proposal in the Bill to abolish Ilea on April 1, 1990, and calling for a review of its work.

He expressed regret that the Secretary of State for Education and Science would not reply to the debate on the amendment. This matter was central to Mr Baker's reputation, he said, and he ought to have the guts to reply.

Mr Baker intervened to say that the Government was totally opposed to the amendment. It would lead to a delay which was not good for the interests of the children of London.

The greatest service Mr Straw could do would be to encourage the London Labour boroughs to start planning for taking over education on April 1, 1990. That was what Conservative boroughs and Tower Hamlets were doing.

Mr Straw said that the Opposition had the interests of the children of London at heart. That was why there should be a review of Ilea's work first of all.

Included in a series of questions and answers prepared by Conservative Central Office about the Bill was an exchange about Ilea. The question posed was why Ilea should be abolished without a review.

The answer given was that there had been a long series of reviews and they had not resulted in any noticeable improvement in the performance of Ilea. It added that there was no reason to believe that a new review would be any more successful in raising standards. It would merely postpone the decision and prolong uncertainty.

He had then asked Mr Baker about this series of reviews. It had taken 10 days to get a reply. In it, Mr Baker said that there had been two internal government reviews, both of which had concluded that Ilea should remain in tact, and five other reviews, only one of which concluded that Ilea should go.

Mr Baker had also referred him to a review carried out by the right-wing Centre for Policy Studies. Even that said there were some powerful arguments for retaining broadly the structure of Ilea.

The Secretary of State complained about the level of Ilea spending, yet he had had control over it for the past five years. He had endorsed it, whereas he could at any time have cut it.

As for his weasel words about the change having been signalled in the manifesto, a train driver who followed that signal would have crashed right into the buffers, which was where Mr Baker would finish up.

The decision would damage not only the future of London's children but also that of Mr Baker. Indeed, a poll at the weekend showed that in the race for the leadership of the Conservative Party Mr Michael Heseltine had 17 per cent support, Mr Norman Tebbit 22 per cent, but Mr Baker, Mr Straw's hero, only managed 2 per cent.

Mr Norman Tebbit (Chingford, C) said that his popularity and that of Mr Heseltine had risen since they became associated with the abolition of Ilea. Perhaps Mr Straw would do himself a bit of good by joining them (Conservative laughter).

Mr Straw said that there had been an attempt by Conservative Central Office to discredit a ballot about the future of Ilea, being taken among the parents of London schoolchildren and run by the non-political London Parents' Action Group with the Electoral Reform Society.

Mr Jack Straw: "Mr Baker lacks guts"

Conservative Central Office had sent out a disgraceful letter to provide excuses for what they clearly expected to be an overwhelming victory for Ilea by "rubbishing" the ballot.

The letter, he said, suggested that the result of the ballot would not give a valid reflection of parents' views because schools had already been flooded with pro-Ilea propaganda, paid for by the ratepayers.

The letter also said that where a child had two parents, they would have only one vote so that the result would favour one-parent families.

Finally, the letter suggested that the method of balloting provided opportunities for ballot rigging on a considerable scale.

"I believe that is a wholly disgraceful allegation for Conservative Central Office and/or ministers to make against the Electoral Reform Society and the non-political London Parents' Action Group. I ask the Secretary of State to disown the claims made in this scandalous and scurrilous document that there is going to be ballot rigging."

The simple fact was that the Government was frightened of the truth and that the ballot would result in rejection of its policy.

Mr Tony Banks (Newham North West, Lab) said that not only was the Government frightened of the truth, it was contemptuous of it.

"When this Government talks about democracy, do not believe it. They are hypocrites and liars."

Mr Straw said that was absolutely right. Not only was the Government contemptuous of the Opposition, it was contemptuous of the electorate of London.

A review would give Mr Baker the opportunity of finding out about London's education for himself. During his two years as Secretary of State, he had visited only one school in inner London and that was a voluntary-aided school.

The policy of breaking up Ilea was a consequence, not of the best interests of London's children, but of the crude politics of the Conservative Party.

Mr Baker had a duty under the law to secure a varied and comprehensive education service in every area and he would be failing in that duty unless he and the Government, for once, thought before they acted.

Mr Harry Greenway (Ealing North, C) said that Ilea should have had more courage in relocating teachers from those highly favoured schools with pupil-teacher ratios as low as 8:1 into others, particularly church schools, where the ratios were much inferior. Ilea had been vindictive in its attitude to church schools.

Once its abolition had been approved by the Commons, it should begin immediate discussions with the inner London boroughs about the handover of responsibilities. It would be its most serious failure of London's children if it failed to do so.

But the Government must consider preserving cross-London arrangements for adult education, special-needs education and sports provision in schools.

In the end, Ilea's shortcomings had undermined its successes. It had failed to have sufficiently high expectations of its children, particularly those from single-parent and ethnic minority families.

Mr David Trippier, Under Secretary of State, Environment, releasing 3,000 balloons at the Albert Dock, Liverpool, yesterday to launch the Merseyside Tourism Board's "Discover Merseyside '88" campaign. Nineteen million visitors went to the board's area last year

Minister's speech criticized

Government 'is cutting curbs on US ownership'

POWER

The Government was apparently "begging American capital to buy the British electricity supply industry, removing controls to foreign ownership", Mr John Prescott, chief Opposition spokesman on energy, said during question time.

He was referring to a speech in Miami, Florida, by Mr Michael Spicer, Under Secretary of State for Energy.

Mr Prescott asked if Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Energy, could say if his promise to the House about tougher regulations to protect consumers in a privatized electricity industry was consistent with the terms of Mr Spicer's speech "to American capital".

In the speech, Mr Spicer said that the regulatory controls in Britain would be less than those in the United States.

Increased profits, no doubt, would be paid for by consumers.

Mr Parkinson said that Mr Spicer's speech would not be delivered for another hour, but that it would answer conclusively Mr Prescott's points.

"Mr Spicer makes it clear that in the United States it is fully accepted that their regulatory system is so restrictive now that it is inhibiting the development of the electricity supply industry and putting consumers at risk.

"We have said, and Mr Spicer has my total support in this, that, although we are going to have a tough regulatory system, we will not have one so tough and mindless that it puts the customers' interests at risk."

Earlier, he said that the Government expected that the investment in the privatized British electricity industry would overwhelmingly be made by British companies.

He said that this was made clear in Mr Spicer's speech in the United States.

Mr Tony Benn (Chesterfield, Lab) had said that a proportion of electricity to be generated in this country had by law to be nuclear, thus denying market forces.

Yet the Government was asking American investors, who could not get any nuclear power stations built there because of market forces, to invest here.

What consumer rights were there in that arrangement?

Mr Parkinson replied that the Government had reserved to the distribution companies the obligation to buy a proportion of their electricity from non-fossil-fuel supplies but had not yet specified where.

He was sure that Mr Benn was referring to the speech by Mr Spicer, who made clear that he expected the investment in the British electricity industry to be made overwhelmingly by British companies.

Parkinson defends price rise

ELECTRICITY

The impending 15 per cent rise in electricity prices was justifiable and necessary, Mr Cecil **Parkinson**, Secretary of State for Energy, said, when he defended the rise against a charge by Mr **John Prescott**, chief Opposition spokesman on energy, that it was a privatization tax burdening the poor.

Mr Prescott said at question time that the imposition of the price increase was, in the judgement of the consumer boards, unjustifiable and represented a tax on the consumer.

That was consistent with the CBI view that it was unsound in business terms and would cost investment in jobs. What group if any agreed with this imposition?

Would Mr Parkinson review his decision and recognize that the price increases were in reality an energy privatization tax burdening the poor at the expense of the better off?

Mr Parkinson: The price rises are totally justifiable and necessary.

After this increase there will have been a fall in electricity prices under this Government in real terms. There was an increase of more than 30 per cent under Labour.

Mr Barry Jones (Alyn and Deeside, Lab) said that up to 12 power stations were redundant in Britain. What were his plans for those? Some local authorities wished to purchase and develop them.

Mr Parkinson said that there was much interest in buying redundant power stations and remodelling them so that they met the highest of standards. "We hope the private sector will come along and do something for them."

Dr John Reid (Motherwell North, Lab) said that the chairman of the CEGB had forgotten more about the electricity industry than Mr Parkinson would ever know, so his comments should be taken seriously.

Would Mr Parkinson respond to the statment by Mr Graham Hadley, the CEGB secretary, supported by the chairman, that separation of the grid from generation would cost the taxpayer up to £1 billion, or 10 per cent of electricity charges, and increase the threat of blackouts. What made Mr Parkinson think he knew better than the CEGB?

Mr Parkinson said that Dr Reid would find that Mr Hadley no longer maintained that it would cost £1 billion. The figure, which was impossible to understand, had been based on the assumption that the Government would propose the creation of five vertically integrated power boards. They had not.

It was now agreed between the CEGB and his department's technical experts that, though there might be a cost from the proposals, that cost could be substantially more than matched by the savings which would result. Dr Reid's information was grossly out of date.

Mr Bowen Wells (Hertford and Stortford, C) said that the introduction of competition would be welcome to those who supplied the CEGB with equipment which, in turn, would enable them to put forward more competitive designs. That would enable them to export to the world.

Mr John Home Robertson (East Lothian, Lab) asked if Mr Parkinson had had any discussions with Lord Marshall, chairman of the CEGB, about the case for improving the transmission system in England and Wales to make it possible for consumers to take advantage of the substantial availability of generating capacity in Scotland.

Mr Parkinson said that they had discussed the strengthening of the "inter-connect" between Scotland and England. There were plans to spend about £7 billion on strengthening the transmission system in England and Wales, including the strengthening of the "inter-connect".

Later, **Mr Richard Douglas** (Dunfermline West, Lab) asked whether Mr Parkinson had held discussions, particularly with the chairman of British Coal (Sir Robert Haslam), over the purchase of power from Scottish power stations for England and Wales.

Mr Parkinson said that negotiations between British Coal and the SSEB were under way.

"I made quite clear that I would like to see those negotiations succeed and Scottish pits kept open for Scottish electricity to come from Scottish coal.

"There is no doubt where I and the Secretary of State for Scotland (Mr Malcolm Rifkind) stand on this matter."

England offered a good export market for Scottish electricity.

Museum costs review

A study of the financial implications of maintaining and managing museum collections has been commissioned by the Government, **Mr Richard Luce**, Minister for the Arts, said.

He said that the study, commissioned with the Museums Association, would emphasize the need for effective accountability.

It would look at the opportunities for improved public access to collections and would examine and attempt to quantify display and storage space and other costs.

Litter show cost £60

The cost of the launch last last Tuesday of an anti-litter campaign, when the Prime Minister collected litter in St James's Park, Westminster, was less than £60, **Mrs Thatcher** said in a written reply.

Mr Tony Banks (Newham North West, Lab) had asked what was the cost and the purpose of the exercise.

Mrs Thatcher said that the Tidy Britain Group had launched a series of projects designed to deal more effectively with litter.

Welsh job

Dr Deidre Hine has been appointed director of the breast-screening service in Wales, **Mr Ian Grist**, Under Secretary of State for Wales, said in a written reply. Screening should start later this year at the Welsh Breast Screening Centre in Cardiff.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Employment; Prime Minister. Housing (Scotland) Bill, progress on remaining stages. Motion on membership of committee on televising proceedings.
Lords (2.30): Copyright, Designs and Patents Bill, third reading.

'Books for the rich' under fire

A premium book subscription service for newly published books from public libraries would mean new books for the rich and old dog-eared books for the poor, **Mr Brian Sedgemore** (Hackney and Shoreditch, Lab) said at question time.

When this hare-brained scheme had been introduced in New Zealand, 66 per cent of the income had gone in administrative costs. In Kiel, West Germany, the idea had been quickly dropped after loans of children's books dropped by 40 per cent.

Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Arts, said that it was a nonsensical way of looking at the objectives of the Green Paper that suggested the subscription service. The objectives were to seek ways of enabling local authorities to raise extra resources in harness with the private sector.

A library authority had drawn up plans for a complementary premium lending service for newly published novels and biographies, but had been advised that it would be in breach of the Public Libraries and Museums Act, 1964.

He had received letters from the public asking for subscription services. The Green Paper, therefore, suggested that local authorities have powers to set up such services.

Mr Mark Fisher, Opposition spokesman for the Arts, said that the *Library Association Record* had described the Green Paper as a forest of negatives, patronizing, confused, badly written and weak on logic. Why did Mr Luce not save himself further embarrassment by withdrawing such ridiculous proposals now?

Mr Luce said that the Opposition's attitude was regrettable. It contradicted that of the director of Library Association, who had been positive, constructive and helpful, but he did not expect such an attitude from the Opposition.

Mr Tony Banks: "Theatre-and-curry offer"

● **Mr Tony Banks** (Newham North West, Lab) invited Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Arts, to see the Liverpool Playhouse production of *The Ragged Trousered Philanthropist* when it transfers to the Theatre Royal, Stratford, east London. He offered to pay for the tickets and curry afterwards.

Mr Luce said that was one of the most generous and surprising offers he had ever had. "I will consider it very carefully."

Mr Robert Wareing (Liverpool, West Derby, Lab) asked for an assurance of regular government funding to secure the future of the Playhouse Theatre and the Everyman Theatre in Liverpool.

Mr Greville Janner (Leicester West, Lab) asked for an assurance of long-term, adequate funding for the Haymarket Theatre in Leicester, which had met its deficit by encouraging new writing and sending plays to the West End.

Mr Eric Forth (Mid Worcestershire, C) said that those who wanted the arts should pay for them.

Government programme threatened

'Hybridity' attack planned

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

Labour leaders plan to use a new parliamentary tactic against the Government to try to wreck its heavy legislative programme.

They are scrutinizing every detail of the Bills going through Parliament to spot any examples of "hybridity", which could effectively kill them off.

Hybrid measures are public Bills that nevertheless single out a particular private interest for different treatment.

They go through a much longer and more complex procedure than ordinary public Bills, as those affected have the right to oppose them in select committees in each House.

If hybridity is proved in any of the present legislation it will stand little chance of reaching the statute book this session.

The idea of such challenges arose after a dispute between clerks in the House of Lords and House of Commons on whether the "Peter Pan" amendment to the Copyright, Designs and Patents Bill was hybrid because it was aimed specifically at allowing royalties to continue to go from J.M.Barrie's work to the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street.

The Commons clerks won the argument on the ground that the hospital is within the National Health Service. If it had been a private hospital, the Bill would have been ruled hybrid.

Labour MPs are now going through the Education Reform Bill line by line to see if they can spot any hybridity.

They believe that they have already found a classic example in a Government amendment to the Employment Bill. If they win their case it could wreck the Bill, which enacts the latest round of industrial relations laws.

The prime example of hybridity problems was the disputed nationalization measure, the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Bill in 1976.

Government Bills for large construction projects in a local area, such as the Channel tunnel, are generally declared hybrid and face a long, arduous passage through Parliament.

Other examples were the Port of London Bills of 1903 and 1908, the Bank of England Bill, 1945, and the recent Norfolk and Suffolk Broads Bill.

It is the job of the Public Bill Office to examine each new measure to check that it complies with the rules.

BNFL bid to store fuel longer

British Nuclear Fuels is running out of time in its plan to reprocess the world's nuclear waste at Sellafield. It is so far behind schedule in building its £1.6 billion thermal oxide reprocessing plant (Thorp), that it has been forced to apply for an extension of the time it is allowed to store fuel.

The delay was disclosed yesterday by Cumbria County Council which says BNFL has told it that Thorp will not be able to process the fuel until 1992.

BNFL's permission to take in and hold the irradiated fuel expires in December 1990. After that, the fuel must be returned to its country of origin within five years if Thorp is not operating.

This week, Mr Windsor Biggs, the county planning officer, will tell the council that BNFL would like the time condition removed or be allowed to hold the fuel in stock until 1995 by which time Thorp should be working. Mr Biggs will recommend that the company be allowed to hold the fuel in its storage pots for the extra five years.

Employment Bill under attack

Union vendetta 'illegal', says Labour

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

The Labour Party has made a fresh onslaught on the Government's Employment Bill, claiming that an amendment, which it says is a direct attack on certain trade union leaders, is illegal.

It aims to prove the Government is pursuing a vendetta against Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers and Mr Ron Todd, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union and to have the Bill declared hybrid, effectively blocking its passage through Parliament.

The dispute hinges on the legality of a government amendment which widens the requirement for trade union leaders to submit themselves to regular secret postal ballots.

The Bill enacts the latest tranche of controls on trade unions which are opposed by the Labour Party and the TUC.

Mr Michael Meacher, the shadow Employment Secretary, said yesterday that the amendment came near to introducing "a hit list" of union leaders such as Mr Scargill and Mr Todd.

He said that unless the Government could give an explanation of the changes when the amendment comes up in the House of Lords, he would request parliamentary clerks to scrutinize it for hybridity.

"All the evidence suggests that these changes have been constructed without reference to the stated principles of the Bill or the 1984 Trade Union Act.

"They are there to impose elections on individuals the Government does not like, in particular a small number of general secretaries and presidents, notably Arthur Scargill and Ron Todd", Mr Meacher said.

Lord Trefgarne, the government spokesman in the Lords who is in charge of the Bill's passage through the Upper House, said the Government had in mind "a number of people" who were within the scope of the Bill.

Mr Meacher said: "In our view the Government has made very fundamental alterations at the last minute, which change quite dramatically the thrust of the Bill".

Kinnock launches campaign against poll tax

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, launched a nationwide attack yesterday on the Government's plans to replace domestic rates with the poll tax. He urged Mrs Thatcher to "axe the tax" or the country would suffer.

"The poll tax is unjust, unfair, undemocratic and un-British. It has been discredited by other free countries and it must be rejected by ours", Mr Kinnock said when he signed the "People's Petition" against the poll tax at its launch in London yesterday.

He was joined by Lord Pitt of Hampstead, chairman of Shelter, the housing organization, the Bishop of Woolwich, the Right Rev Peter Hall, Mrs Margaret Hodge, chairman of the Association of London Authorities, and other local government figures.

The petition is also being backed by Mr David Steel, the Conservative MP Sir George Young and Mr Norman Willis, the TUC general secretary.

The tax is due to be introduced in Scotland next year and in England and Wales in two years' time.

Mr Kinnock said it was "highly unlikely" he would vote for an amendment to the community charge Bill being proposed Mr Michael Mates, a Conservative MP, which would introduce a banding system for the tax.

Lord Pitt said the tax would hit ethnic minority communities in particular, especially those with large families living in the inner cities.

City firms courted by Wales

A £1 million campaign intended to persuade more banks, insurance companies and financial services to set up bases in south-east Wales was launched yesterday by Mr Peter Walker.

The Secretary of State for Wales has joined local authorities and the Welsh Development Agency in a two-year drive to woo more companies away from the City.

A key weapon will be the huge difference in operating costs between London and Wales. Since 1981 more than 15,000 extra jobs have been created in banking, insurance and finance in the region.

In the past few months, Cardiff and Newport have attracted the Chemical Bank, TSB general insurance and the Patent Office.

Mr Stephen White, executive director of the development agency, who will head the campaign, said: "Fundamental changes within the financial services sector are making more institutions question whether they have to base their total operations in London and the South-east".

Runcie confirms gay clergy view

By Ruth Gledhill

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, has reaffirmed his opposition to the ordination of active homosexual clergy to the priesthood in Church of England.

Speaking on BBC-1's *Panorama* last night, Dr Runcie said: "The people who are homosexual by nature and who seem to have no alternative, would to my mind not be ordained if they committed the homosexual acts which I would judge to be sins, as well as repellant to many people to whom this person would minister".

A homosexual in a stable relationship should only be ordained if the relationship was maintained "without the acts which are condemned in the Bible and in the tradition".

In the programme, which included interviews with churchmen and laymen from across the high and low church spectrum, Dr Runcie answered criticisms by Dr Gareth Bennett in the *Crockford's* preface and stated his views on the ordination of women.

He denied that he was an "intelligent pragmatist" with the "desire to put off all questions until someone else makes the decision".

He said: "I am not a pragmatist but I do recognize that it takes time and unique patience before you find solutions which are generally acceptable in the life of the Church".

The lead he is attempting to give is a "lead against rigid thinking, a judgemental temper of mind and a disposition to oversimplify very complex problems which is the spirit of Christ".

He believes the ordination of women is something that will eventually come to pass.

"But I want it to happen in a way which will carry the consensus of people and will be built upon some experience of women's ministry."

He also suggested that the Church might have a moral duty to question or oppose government policies on emigration, South Africa and a taxation system that rewards success rather than trying to meet urgent social needs.

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Dental research conference

Mothers support 'risk-free' vaccine for children's teeth

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Mothers would welcome a children's vaccine against tooth decay if they were assured it had no serious side effects, a conference on dental research was told yesterday.

A vaccine developed in Britain has been shelved by the Department of Health and Social Security because of doubts over its acceptability and usefulness.

However, a survey of 315 mothers of pre-schoolchildren in Scotland has shown that up to 78 per cent would consider such a vaccine acceptable if it meant that all tooth decay was avoidable and there were no health risks attached to giving it to their children.

The results of the survey were given to 400 delegates at the conference at Queen's University, Belfast.

The three-day meeting is the first jointly organized by the British Society for Dental Research and the Irish division of the International Association for Dental Research.

The study showed that a completely safe vaccine would be preferable to mothers than fluoridation of public water supplies, Miss Elizabeth Kay, of the oral medicine, pathology and community medicine departments of Glasgow University said.

The families in the study were from socially deprived areas. Seventy-one per cent of the children aged three and four had never been seen by a dentist and 32 per cent of the mothers had refused one of the vaccinations available to their children.

"One of the most disturbing findings is that 36 per cent of the mothers believe that no preventive measures are necessary to protect their children's teeth", Miss Kay said.

The British vaccine against dental caries shelved by the DHSS [illegible] Professor Newell [illegible] Dr [illegible] College of Surgeons with the Wellcome Foundation.

It is designed to counter the action of bacteria that leads to decay. It would be given to children before they had their first teeth or at the age of five.

The department, which put £1 million into the 12 years of research, withdrew support two years ago because of growing evidence of a decline in tooth decay and worries about how acceptable the vaccine would be to parents.

Professor Newell said at the conference: "I think the results of the survey are encouraging. We believe there is a future for this vaccine although more research still needs to be done.

"Whether it is ever introduced in Britain I don't know but dental caries is an increasing problem in developing countries and there is a lot of foreign interest in this work."

Elderly people do not receive [illegible] treatment they need [illegible] because they are afraid [illegible] their teeth [illegible] researchers [illegible] the conference.

A study of pensioners in Lambeth, south London, showed that only 16 per cent received treatment last year, although more than 80 per cent needed attention, and more than half wanted to be seen by a dentist.

Two out of three had difficulties in getting to a surgery.

Lower dental charges for the elderly, the provision of more treatment in residential institutions, and a better visiting service were recommended after a separate study, also carried out by researchers from the King's College School of Medicine and Dentistry, London.

Drilling and filling 'should be curbed'

By Our Science Correspondent

Britain's dentists were given a government health warning yesterday against unnecessary drilling and filling of teeth, which experts believe can do more harm than good, particularly in children.

The dentists are being urged to abandon some of their most feared treatments and to adopt less interventionist practices aimed at preventing tooth decay and gum disease.

The Department of Health and Social Security said its research had shown that only about half of Britain's 25,000 dentists regularly attend professional meetings to update knowledge.

They are being sent training videos in a campaign launched yesterday in London by Mrs Edwina Currie, Under-Secretary of State for Health.

"The process of dental decay can be arrested in the early stages", she said. "With a proper programme of oral hygiene the enamel of the teeth can harden if left alone and fillings are avoided. Watch and wait before you drill is the motto for dentists in the future. Once a filling has been made each restoration gets larger and larger and the outlook for the tooth becomes increasingly bleaker."

Mrs Currie said dental health in Britain had improved considerably in the past 10 years through the use of fluoride in toothpaste and greater public awareness of the need to care for teeth.

The Government was committed to further improvements. If those were to be achieved "it is vital that dentists keep themselves informed of the latest developments", she said.

Dr Martin Downer, the chief dental officer at the DHSS, said: "The quality of dental practice in Britain is very high but it is difficult for new ideas to filter down.

"Those dentists who qualified some years ago may not be as up-to-date as they could be and there is certainly a knowledge gap that has to be filled.

"There is considerably less tooth decay now, particularly among children." There was real cause for optimism that the drilling and filling of children's teeth might soon become a practice of the past, he added.

Face of hope amid hunger

Audrey Hepburn, the actress, visiting drought-stricken Ethiopia as ambassador of Unicef, the United Nation children's charity. In London yesterday she appealed for more aid to fight famine. "I saw babies the size of one-year-olds. In fact, they were five-year-olds", she said with emotion. "To save a child is a blessing. To save one million children is a God-given opportunity." The famine was potentially worse than 1985 because even less rain was falling this time. She described her tour as heart-rending. "Drought is recurrent, famine need not be. Famine can be wiped out."

Disabled lose under benefit reforms

**By Jill Sherman
Social Services
Correspondent**

Sick and disabled people stand to lose by up to £18 a week under the new social security reforms, and more than twice as many pensioners will lose as gain through cuts in housing benefit, according to a survey published today by Citizens' Advice bureaux in Yorkshire.

The survey, based on actual cases, compares the benefits claimants get now with what new claimants would get under the new system. The report shows that for every gainer among sick and disabled claimants, five would lose. Although on average the losses were more than £8 for that group, some people would lose £17 or £18.

A young disabled woman living on her own will end up £9 a week poorer, the report shows. Most families with children will gain under the new rules, on average £3 for couples and £7 for single parents.

Losers and Gainers: A Comparison of Benefits (National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux, Yorkshire and Humberside Area Office, County House, Vicar Lane, Leeds LS1 7JH).

Homeless families 'being threatened'

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Violence is being employed against families housed in bed and breakfast accommodation by local authorities, according to a study yesterday.

Tower Hamlets Homeless Families Campaign, acting on behalf of families in east London, says that harassment, usually overtly racist, is in response to their complaints against conditions.

The report, *Anti-Racism for the Private Rented Sector*, produced by a group of London housing workers, says that in one hotel a man was threatened by the cleaner, another homeless person, employed by the management.

The threats, including one to kill, arose because the children of the threatened man used the wrong entrance to the hotel and played in a restricted area. In the same hotel, a white youth threatened three Bangladeshi boys with a knife.

"On occasions such as this, the police would be called but sided with the management."

At another bed and breakfast hotel, Bangladeshi families were threatened when the manager produced an iron bar from behind the reception desk.

Seven London boroughs received allegations of racist behaviour by landlords and most referred to the refusal by owners or managers of bed and breakfast hotels to take in black people.

The campaign group says: "The use of rules and regulations, often petty and unreasonable, is also part of a pattern."

Grant for study into brain germ

By Kerry Gill

The Medical Research Council has awarded a grant of more than £50,000 for a three-year research project into the causes of meningitis.

Research is to be carried out under Professor Hugh Pennington, professor of bacteriology and dean of medicine at Aberdeen University, and will use modern genetic techniques to study the variations and relationships between strains of neisseria meningitidis, the bacterium which is the most common cause of the disease among children in Britain.

At present there is no vaccine with which to treat the common form of meningitis in Britain and doctors are still mystified as to how the bacterium apparently travels about the country causing sudden outbreaks. This winter has seen outbreaks in places as far apart as Devon and Ayrshire.

Professor Pennington said it was impossible to predict the behaviour of the organism.

Part of his research will concentrate on improving typing methods to understand how many types of neisseria meningitidis there are. A long-term aim will be to find out why and how meningitis spreads.

"The data we get will be useful if and when a vaccine comes along. There is no vaccine as yet in the strains that cause the disease in this country", he said yesterday.

Village to take court action against Ridley

A village is to take legal action against Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, because of a decision to allow more than 800 acres of land in a declared area of outstanding natural beauty to be used for military training.

A department inspector who held a four-day public inquiry in 1986 into the Army proposal to take over the land at Stainmore, Cumbria, had recommended refusal. However, the finding was overruled by Mr Ridley.

Four residents are applying jointly with the parish council for a judicial review because they say the scheme would have an adverse impact .

The case, it it goes to court, will be the first of its kind in which the Secretary of State has faced legal action because of a Ministry of Defence application. The residents have launched an appeal to pay for legal costs.

High prices from Australia

SALEROOM

By Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

Sotheby's achieved four world record prices in their bicentennial sale of Australian paintings in Melbourne at the weekend, but with a gaping 34 per cent unsold.

The first record was for a 1898 portrait by Tudor St George Tucker of a young girl dressed in white like a Whistler painting, and posing against a white wall, which sold for $A187,000 (£72,762), more than twice its upper estimate.

Another painting of a young girl, this time lying in opulent and colourful surroundings, by Rupert Charles Wulsten Bunny, achieved an Australian record for the artist, although the $A187,000 price (£72,762) was just over half the world record established in New York last month.

An intruiguing piece of social history, depicting gold digging at Mount Alexander, by George French Angas, fetched $A93,500 (£36,381), $A20,000 over estimate, another world record.

At the time, the intrepid young artist wrote from the scene to his London publisher, William Hogarth: "I send you two exact water-colour sketches taken on the spot by myself...every tent and store with its flag...and all the figures are sketched from life". It shows men lowering themselves down makeshift shafts, carrying loads, and conversing in a barren terrain.

Top price of all was for a painting consigned by Robert Hughes, the art critic and author. Entitled "Blue Mountains Landscape circa 1891", by Sir Arthur Ernest Streeton, this previously unexhibited painting shows a woman descending in the sunlight from her mountain home.

Estimated at up to $A200,000, it sold in the event for $A275,000 (£107,003) to an unknown buyer.

The first session of Spink's largest coin sale ever brought good returns for that lowly coin, the old English farthing. Many phrases denoting meanness have evolved around the farthing, such as "farthing-faced chit" in Edwardian times, and "farthing-taster" (the smallest measure of ice-cream in Victorian times).

But yesterday, they rewarded their investors well. Out of a total offering of 400 farthings at the sale, a brass example produced during the Cromwellian period fetched £880 against an estimate of £500 to £700.

According to Mr Patrick Finn, of Spink's, a 1901 brass farthing which escaped the blackening process could well have fetched a high price, but he had only one bidder, and so the hammer fell when it reached the reserve of £50.

It was also a disappointing day for sellers of gold coins. A Charles I triple unite from the Oxford mint, which might have fetched £8,000 to £9,000 three years ago, sold for only £4,200.

Phillips set this week's Impressionist sales — the climax of the pre-Easter auction season — in motion yesterday afternoon, with its sale of lesser Impressionist paintings but it turned out to be a fiasco, with over half the lots unsold.

High prices included that of £63,800 (estimate £30,000 to £40,000) for a river scene, "Les Bords de la Marne" by Henri Lebasque, and £52,800 (estimate £40,000 to £50,000) for a gouache street scene entitled "Le Lapin Agile", by Maurice Utrillo.

For the really big one complete the following in less than six months.

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Actually, it can take less than a day to sort out your pension arrangements.

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Because from now until the 30th of June, NPI's regular premium Self-Employed Retirement Plans will be 1% bigger.

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NPI
IT PAYS TO LISTEN TO EXPERTS.

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The 300TE 188 DIN. hp. 0-62 mph 8.8 seconds. top speed 130 mph

Mercedes-Benz present an interesting innovation in estate cars. Sophistication.

Every estate car is designed to be practical. As a single design objective this is quite easily achieved: all you need is a van with an extra set of windows. However, the concept of marrying a practical load space with the quality of drive and comfort of a saloon car is a different matter altogether. After all, should luxury, comfort and style be the sole preserve of saloon cars? Mercedes-Benz don't think so and have more than proved their point with the T-series. Why shouldn't an estate car driver be in control of a high-powered engine with smooth, responsive performance? Why shouldn't an estate car driver be able to take a corner at speed with confidence or drive long distances without weariness or discomfort? The T-series was purpose designed to provide extra space but not at the expense of those qualities that make a car a Mercedes-Benz.

To be judged a luxury car an estate needs to have a refined engine of two litres or more, power-assisted steering, a quiet interior with low wind and road noise, a smooth, comfortable ride, a stable suspension system for good road-holding and a high cruising speed for effortless long distance travel.

With the 2 litre 200T that is exactly what you get. Not to mention the many other standard features like the separate passenger and driver heating controls, tinted safety glass all round, heated windscreen washer nozzles, and the reason most people decide on an estate in the first place: a large load space that has a multiplicity of space variations with a rear bench seat that divides (one third/two thirds) and a front passenger seat that folds right back.

There are, of course, optional extras you can add yourself. Such as a power-assisted tilt or slide sunroof, cruise-control and a third row of rear-facing seats which folds down flush with the floor. Should your motoring require an even higher degree of sophistication, the 2.3 litre 230TE and 3 litre 300TE will more than adequately provide it. The top of the range 300TE has a powerful six cylinder, 188 DIN/hp engine which outperforms most luxury cars in its class. On the test track it can easily achieve 130 mph and its 0 to 60 time is less than 9 seconds (manufacturer's figures). It also has automatic four-speed transmission with sport and economy selection, ABS braking and electrically operated windows as standard.

Completing the range is the 2.5 litre 250TD which has a supremely refined five cylinder diesel engine. It also shares a whole range of unique Mercedes-Benz features standard on all T-series models. These include a self-activated electric motor which firmly shuts the tailgate once it is in the 'close' position, the multi-link rear suspension system which incorporates a self-levelling device for sure-footed roadholding irrespective of load, electronic seat-belt tensioners which take up the slack in the front seat-belts on impact and, as you'd expect, energy absorbing front and rear crumple zones, with the rigid passenger safety cell which Mercedes-Benz invented.

All in all, four superb estate cars with an intricate variety of options and every conceivable comfort you'd expect from a luxury car. Proving that with a Mercedes-Benz estate you don't go without sophistication, you get it all with room to spare.

ENGINEERED LIKE NO OTHER CAR IN THE WORLD.

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WORLD ROUNDUP

Arms deal gloom ahead of summit

A further hint of gloom about the chances of an agreement to cut American and Soviet strategic nuclear arsenals by 50 per cent being ready for signature at President Reagan's Moscow summit meeting with Mr Gorbachov emerged yesterday (Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent, writes).

Mr Viktor Karpov, head of the Soviet Arms Control and Disarmament Directorate, told Mr David Mellor, Minister of State at the Foreign Office: "We have to be realistic about the timing".

There is a growing feeling that the Start agreement may be reached after the summit but before President Reagan leaves office in January. Neither side is ruling out the possibility of a further summit to sign it.

Mr Karpov came to London from Washington, where he attended a summit preparatory meeting.

Vanunu appeal

Jerusalem (Reuter) — The former nuclear technician, Mordechai Vanunu, appealed to Israel's Supreme Court yesterday against an 18-year prison sentence for treason and espionage, the Armed Forces Radio said.

A justice ministry spokeswoman said no appeal had yet been received "but it could take up to 10 hours to go through the right channels". Vanunu's lawyer, Mr Avigdor Feldman, was not available for comment.

Vanunu told *The Sunday Times* in September, 1986, that Israel had produced up to 200 atomic bombs.

EEC fears influx

Brussels (AP) — Most Europeans fear continuing poverty in the Third World might lead to a new wave of immigration according to a European Economic Community study.

The report, based on interviews with 11,583 people, concluded that the fear of an influx of foreigners was strongest in France, West Germany and Britain, all of which have a large number of immigrant workers. In France, 64 per cent said "there is a risk we could be swamped by Third World population growth."

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Shots at embassy

Vienna — Shots were fired at a group of around 70 Kurdish demonstrators protesting in front of the Iraqi Embassy yesterday (John Holland writes).

The demonstrators tried to send representatives to see Iraqi officials but they were thrown out. Six shots were then fired by an Iraqi security employee. No one was hit.

Airbus for France

Paris — With the pomp and ceremony befitting a success that is firstly French and then European, as M Jacques Chirac, the French Prime Minister put it, Air France yesterday took delivery of the first Airbus A320 from the Aérospatiale factory in Toulouse (Susan MacDonald writes).

Strike hits Portugal

Lisbon — Much of Portugal was paralysed yesterday by a general strike called by the country's two main unions to protest against the labour-law package proposed by the Government (Martha de la Cal writes). Nearly all transport was stopped. Domestic flights were cancelled and only a few international planes took off.

Peking Parliament embraces glasnost

From A Correspondent, Peking

Delegates to the Chinese Parliament yesterday staged an extraordinary show of openness here by criticizing the Communist Party hierarchy for its failure to heed their views.

In the Great Hall of the People, where nearly 3,000 members of the annual National People's Congress had gathered for the morning session, deputies exercised in public their right to challenge a proposed motion.

The country's nominal legislature, for long a rubber-stamp assembly, was expected meekly to approve a series of resolutions. The congress has won a measure of real power in recent years but has rarely opposed plans put up by the party leadership.

The display of opposition, which was clearly expected and sanctioned by the leadership, followed calls by Mr Zhao Xiyang, the party chief, for freer debate and greater openness in the Government's secretive workings as he seeks support for advancing economic and political reform.

The debate began when Mr Peng Chong, the executive chairman of the NPC praesidium, called for a vote on establishing seven special committees to deal with government affairs between annual parliamentary meetings. Microphones were provided right through the cavernous hall. Several delegates attacked the Government for its failure to consider some of their suggestions. One quoted a stereotype statement that committee members were selected through "consultation with relevant departments" and claimed he was neither notified which organizations were involved nor consulted.

Another challenged a decision to elect an 89-year-old scientist to head the education, science, culture and public health committee. The speaker bluntly declared that "the man is too old". He added that "we should have more opportunities for the younger generation to display their talents", as applause burst across the auditorium.

During a show of hands to vote on the lists of committee members, several Noes, and at least one abstention, were registered for each. The most controversial motion, the passage of the education committee, brought eight votes against and a stunning 69 abstentions. In the past the committees have been composed of appointees chosen under party auspices.

The official Xinhua news agency took note of the voting and what it called the expression of "different views", indicating that the debate was being officially tolerated as a show of openness. "For the first time in the NPC's history, not a single one of the NPC's seven committees was elected unanimously," it said.

One deputy, Mr Wu Chan, aged 83, clambered on the leaders' dais to announce his withdrawal as a candidate for the overseas Chinese committee because of old age.

Such moves coincide with a drive spearheaded by Mr Deng Xiaoping, aged 83, the senior leadership figure, to rejuvenate the Government's ranks, though the effort has met with considerable resistance. Last week Mr Zhao issued a call for greater debate and *glasnost* in governing the country, signalling an acknowledgement of the leadership's difficulties in gauging public sentiment.

The delegates also heard Mr Song Ping, a state councillor, announce a sweeping reorganization that will streamline the central Government's fossilized structure, slash its involvement in day-to-day affairs, and remove 10,000 employees from its bloated bureaucracy.

Under the plan, the State Council, the equivalent of a Cabinet, will eliminate 14 government departments or shift their duties to 10 new ministries to simplify operations. Mr Song said: "We will not simply abolish some offices, merge others and cut back staff, but introduce changes to their functions."

The proposal is part of a general trend towards more autonomy for local managers in Peking's swing away from direct central control. The past need for numerous departments to oversee all aspects of the administration and the economy is diminishing as the Government reduces its responsibilities.

The changes were necessary because China's reforms were falling victim to government inefficiency, rigid management and an overlapping between various departments, Mr Song said.

Among the main changes proposed is the creation of a new State Planning Commission, combining the existing State Economic Commission and the Planning Commission, which would oversee the national economy while moving away from direct management of state industries.

The establishment of a Ministry of Materials, whose task would be to supervise distribution of raw materials, is intended to end the nationwide hoarding which is severely hampering industrial output. Under the current set-up, each ministry is able to stockpile materials over which it exercises control, sharply exacerbating an already irrational system of supply and demand.

Democrats in chaos as Jackson savours win

From Charles Bremner, Hartford, Connecticut

The Democratic voters of Connecticut add their two cents' worth to the chaotic presidential primary race today as anguished party elders wrestle with the spectre of a national victory by Mr Jesse Jackson and the candidates gear up for a battle royal in neighbouring New York State.

As many in the party once again looked to Mr Mario Cuomo, the Governor of New York, yesterday, Mr Richard Gephardt, the man who won the first contest an age ago in Iowa, announced that he was dropping out of the race.

In contrast to the Democrats' confusion, Republicans in Connecticut were expected to hand Mr George Bush his crowning victory after Senator Robert Dole all but abandoned his campaign in this prosperous and heavily Republican state where the Vice-President spent his youth.

For Mr Michael Dukakis, the former "inevitable" Democratic front-runner, a victory in Connecticut — a New England state neighbouring his own Massachussetts — will be a slight consolation. He was buried in a landslide vote for Mr Jackson in the Michigan contest last Saturday.

Washington — Congressman Richard Gephardt, whose presidential campaign has gone downhill since his victory in the Iowa caucuses, yesterday announced that he is pulling out of the race (Michael Binyon writes). He will re-register in St Louis today to run again as a congressman in Missouri. He has won 167 delegates, but he has not announced any plans to give his support to any other Democratic candidate.

Local polls give Mr Dukakis 50 per cent of the vote, compared with 16 per cent for Mr Jackson. But the black preacher spent Sunday hard on the heels of Mr Dukakis, aiming to add to his weekend triumph with a "better-than-expected" show in Connecticut. "People are responding to my message. I am soul over money and mechanics," he chanted at cheering rallies in down-at-heel Bridgeport.

The aura of victory has only sharpened the contrast between Mr Jackson's uplifting and specific message, aimed at the working class, and the vague and colourless platform of Mr Dukakis, the "man with the most money and the least to say", as one newspaper referred to him yesterday.

Mr Jackson owed his Michigan victory to a turnout of 150,000 voters, compared with 50,000 for Mr Dukakis, in a state of nine million people. But however small, the numbers put the two men neck-and-neck, with about 600 delegates each for the national convention.

The prospect of the Democratic Party finding a black left-wing preacher as its front-runner has sent tremors through the leadership over the past three days.

When Mr Dukakis seemed to be the man, Mr Paul Kirk, the party chairman, was saying that the Democrats should join to throw their weight behind the man with the momentum. Yesterday, reporters could hardly drag out of Mr Kirk a grudging "I doubt it" when he was asked if the party could deny the nomination to Mr Jackson if he arrived at the July convention with the most delegates.

The quandary for the party is simple. Most leaders are convinced — and their belief is born out by opinion polls — that America will not elect a black president.

"Down one path we have to turn our backs on everything this party has purported to stand for," said one widely-quoted party official. "Down the other, we face certain disaster in the fall."

With the party still searching for a leader, eyes were turning yesterday to Mr Cuomo. As one of the Democrats' most respected figures, his support for a candidate could be decisive. His reluctance so far to endorse Mr Dukakis — like him, an immigrant's son and north-eastern governor in the party mainstream — has hurt the Massachusetts Democrat.

New York, the nation's second most populated state, votes on April 19 after the smaller Wisconsin primary next Tuesday. The New York primary is now being treated as pivotal in the fortunes of the front-running candidates.

Mr Cuomo said yesterday that he was delaying his decision on whether to endorse a candidate in the primary. But Mr Cuomo's only praise was for Mr Jackson.

"There's something exciting about the idea that someone who has no money, someone who is a tremendous underdog, can defy the odds and succeed. You can argue with his message and I might. But the point here is that people want ideas, specific ideas that they understand

The pundits say that any further upset by Mr Jackson could bring more pressure for Mr Cuomo to be drafted as a "white knight".

Bread of charity for Panama children

Panamanian children wait outside a church in San Miguelito for food distributed by Caritas, the Catholic welfare agency. More than 6,000 families are being fed by the relief organization while the country is racked by a week-old general strike.

US hint of Noriega extradition

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The Reagan Administration is hoping that General Manuel Noriega will be ousted within days and thinks it will be the Panamanian Military Guard that deposes him. But a senior official hinted that the US might try to extradite him.

Mr Elliott Abrams, the Assistant Secretary of State for Latin American Affairs, said at the weekend that "the whole populace" had turned against General Noriega, who has been indicted in the United States on drug-running and racketeering charges.

He is "clinging at this point by his fingertips," Mr Abrams said. "Ultimately, I think it's going to have to be the Guard itself that gets rid of him."

Asked about a forced extradition, Mr Abrams was quoted as saying: "I don't want to rule anything out because I want Noriega to have some sleepless nights."

President Reagan has dismissed the willingness of the Dominican Republic to give General Noriega asylum, saying: "That's not far enough." Mr Abrams said that he favoured Spain's offer of asylum "because it's far away."

Asked if there were any circumstances that would prompt the United States to remove General Noriega, Mr Abrams said: "We have the right to arrest General Noriega because he is under two federal drug-trafficking indictments, but I just don't want to speculate on that."

The Senate voted 92-0 on Friday to urge the Administration to exert new diplomatic, political and economic pressure to force General Noriega to leave Panama.

Mr Abrams referred to the ousted leaders of the Philippines and Haiti, and said that the Administration's experiences with Mr Ferdinand Marcos and Mr Jean-Claude Duvalier had led it to believe that economic pressure would work. But he warned that it was easier to remove civilian dictators than military ones.

Administration sources said General Noriega had agreed to send a representative to a meeting with Latin leaders in Costa Rica, apparently to discuss proposals for his departure from Panama.

They said that the meeting was called by President Arias of Costa Rica, and the talks would include a representative of the Spanish Government, which has offered General Noriega safe haven.

● CARACAS: A Panamanian military rebel yesterday called for the opposition parties to unite in a "national reconciliation front" because time was running out for a bloodless resolution of Panama's crisis (AP reports).

"A bloodbath is nearing and all those wanting a non-violent end of the crisis should act," Colonel Roberto Diaz Herrera, said.

The former Panamaniam National Guard Chief of Staff's denunciations of General Noriega last June helped trigger the crisis.

Kremlin discovers the opinion poll

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The Kremlin yesterday announced the setting up of the country's first nationwide centre "for the study of public opinion", which will have branches in 25 Soviet cities. The move is seen as part of its desire to take more account of the wishes of citizens.

Until Mr Mikhail Gorbachov became Communist Party leader in 1985, public opinion surveying was hardly practised inside the Soviet Union, and it remains an embryonic science, which frequently raises suspicion in those being questioned.

The head of the new centre is to be Miss Tatiana Zaslavskaya, the best-known Soviet sociologist and a maverick economic thinker. She caused a sensation in 1983 when a secret report, in which she advocated sweeping economic reform in the Soviet Union, found its way into the pages of the Western press.

In her new post, Miss Zaslavskaya, aged 60, will have a staff of 180 sociologists, computer programmers and journalists, plus a network of interviewers which will be created at the centre's branches in each of the republics. The first poll will concern the process by which management is now being elected by the work-force at industrial enterprises. "It is planned to take 18 to 20 public opinion polls annually, to promptly study public opinion in separate parts of the country, and to regularly conduct group studies," Tass reported.

The growing respectability of the opinion poll in Soviet life was signalled last November when French media organizations were permitted to co-operate in what was claimed as the first joint poll on public opinion in Moscow, across a range of often controversial issues, including the war in Afghanistan.

Miss Zaslavskaya, one of the influential group of radical academics from the Siberian city of Novosibirsk who are favoured by Mr Gorbachov, explained: "The population will be kept informed about the results of these studies, which will promote the socio-political activity of people indispensable for the success of *perestroika* (restructuring). In the future, it is planned to create other specialist centres for the study of public opinion."

Western sources claimed that the establishment of the new centre was another astute move by Mr Gorbachov to appeal over the heads of his bureaucratic opponents to the Soviet people for support for his economic reform programme.

Victorian solution offered to Fiji

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

One of Queen Victoria's less-known titles, "Tui Viti", or Supreme Chief of Fiji, is being dusted off with a view to fresh service.

It will be used in a form of diplomatic barter today at talks between the Prime Minister, the Foreign Secretary, and Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, the Prime Minister of Fiji.

Mrs Thatcher is expected to hint to Ratu Mara that she would be prepared to recommend the Queen to accept the title of Tui Viti.

But there is a condition: the new constitution which the islands are preparing should be "acceptable". Stripped of its diplomatic code, that means that Fiji's Melanesian minority must restore the democratic rights of the Indian majority.

Ratu Mara has come to London to ask that his ciuntry's links with the Crown be restored. They were severed last November when Fiji became a republic after two military coups. Buckingham Palace announced during the Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference in Vancouver that the Queen had ceased to be Queen of Fiji. At the same time, the Heads of Government announced that Fiji's membership had lapsed.

It was the Fijians who first came up with the idea of reviving the Tui Viti title. They argued that the 1874 Deed of Cession, under which Queen Victoria accepted the title, was still valid.

The initial reaction in Whitehall was that even if the title had passed to the present Queen — which was doubtful — it must have lapsed when she stepped down as Queen of Fiji. But now Foreign Office lawyers have read the document, and reported that it could be argued both ways. In short, Britain could choose to decide that the Fijian interpretation was right if it wished.

If Suva had suggested this before November, it would have been up to the Queen to decide, in consultation with Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, then Governor-General.

But the loss of her title as Queen of Fiji meant that the right to recommend whether she should accept the Tui Viti title passed to Mrs Thatcher.

Whitehall sources made it clear yesterday that the Prime Minister would like to say "yes", but it would be politically impossible without a satisfactory Fijian constitution. If the islands were to accept a constitution adequate for the Queen, they would also stand a good chance of being re-admitted to the Commonwealth. But that is seen as a long-term prospect, and Ratu Mara has not asked to see Mr Shridath Ramphal, the organization's Secretary-General.

Ratu Mara's willingness to deliver such a *constitution* is open to question. One of the effects of the two coups was to restore him, after a lapse of six months, to the position he lost at the polls last April, when the Indian-dominated majority took power.

Israel braced for unrest as Arabs strike

From David Bernstein, Jerusalem

Israel was bracing itself yesterday for a day of intensified unrest tomorrow when the country's 700,000 Arab citizens plan a general strike and rallies to mark Land Day.

Land Day is commemorated on March 30 each year, the anniversary of the 1976 killing by Israeli policemen of several Arab villagers during an expropriation process in Galilee.

In most years Land Day has passed relatively quietly but many Israeli Arabs, particularly the young, have been displaying a growing sense of solidarity with the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories over the past three and a half months, and there is widespread apprehension that tomorrow may be different.

The Prime Minister, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, went out of his way yesterday to warn Israel's Arabs to show restraint, saying: "Any trial of strength between *them* and *us* will be like that between a fly and an elephant."

The Police Minister, Mr Chaim Bar-Lev, also said that no infringement of the law would be tolerated. He said on Israel Radio that any attempt to disrupt movement along public roads or to display "flags other than that of the State of Israel" would meet with prompt action.

The country's 4,000-strong police force has been put on full alert. All leave has been cancelled and police will be deployed throughout Arab populated areas. Two Army helicopters are to be placed at the disposal of the police to fly units into trouble spots.

Mr Bar-Lev said the police would honour an agreement reached with Arab leaders not to enter villages or towns unless there was an actual breakdown of public order or *conditions of* licensed demonstrations were infringed.

Steps have been taken during the past 10 days to keep Land Day protests to a minimum. Several potential ringleaders have been detained, and the newspaper of the Israeli Communist Party — which is influential among Israeli Arabs and has been playing a big role in organizing the planned protest — has been closed down for a week.

The Army has arrested hundreds of activists, many of them members of the recently outlawed Shabiba youth movement, in the occupied territories.

Israeli authorities fear that an effort will be made to intensify unrest in the West Bank and Gaza tomorrow, to emphasize the common cause shared by the Palestinians and the Arabs inside Israel's pre-1967 borders.

Israel Radio reported yesterday that the occupied territories may be entirely closed to the press tomorrow. This has not happened so far and would apparently be an infringement of a High Court ruling permitting restrictions on press coverage in specific trouble spots but ruling out a total ban.

The situation in the occupied territories was relatively quiet yesterday, after three particularly bloody days in which 10 Palestinians were shot dead. The death in hospital was reported of a Palestinian shot by Israeli troops during a clash on Sunday in the West Bank village of Salfit. This brings the number of Palestinians killed by the Israelis since last December 9 to 114.

In the Knesset yesterday, recalled from its spring recess, Mr Shamir delivered a toughly-worded policy statement reiterating Israel's determination to put down the uprising in the occupied territories. He also repeated his opposition to several elements in the peace package put together by the US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz.

Mr Shamir bitterly attacked Mr Shultz's meeting with two prominent American Palestinians over the weekend, Professor Edward Said and Professor Ibrahim Abu Lughod. He noted that both men were members of the Palestine National Council, which Israel views as an integral part of the Palestine Liberation Organization, and are not therefore acceptable as negotiation partners in line with an understanding between Israel and the US.

Mr Shultz is due in Israel on Sunday, when he is expected to demand an unequivocal reply to his peace proposals.

Serbs' fast food champion faces challenge from US

From Richard Bassett, Belgrade

7.30am is an early hour for the Balkans, but the queue in front of Jovanovic's has already formed. Until the small kiosk selling the best grilled *pleskavica*, a Serbian hamburger, closes 12 hours later, hundreds will be lining up for Yugoslavia's own brand of fast food.

There are more than 800 such kiosks in Belgrade but opinion, passionate on this as on so many things in Serbia, is unanimous that Jovanovic's grills the best.

When the Belgrade tax authorities attempted to levy a luxury tax on Mr Jovanovic's kiosk, his decision to close in protest for six months brought demonstrations to the Serbian Parliament.

But the opening this week of Yugoslavia's first McDonald's hamburger bar in Belgrade is seen by some as a more subtle attempt to outflank Mr Jovanovic.

At first glance, McDonald's opening in Belgrade is comparable to a British attempt to export tea to China. For centuries, grilled meat in various shapes and sizes has been the staple diet of Yugoslavs.

Its simple ingredients and rapid preparation have assisted many generations of partisans engaged in guerrilla warfare, the ideal environment, sociologists say, for the consumption of fast food.

Every Serb, from the descendants of Prince Montenegro to the humblest bootblack at the Hotel Balkan, knows about Mr Jovanovic's *pleskavica*.

The Belgrade McDonald's, situated in a vast Stalinist marbled palace, is a far cry from Mr Jovanovic's small kiosk, where there is barely room for him, "big Bob" his partner, and two white-coated blondes whose job it is to fashion the meat by hand.

Despite McDonald's lavishness, Mr Jovanovic is sceptical that it will tempt Serbs away from their traditional form of hamburgers. "Our product is natural, hand-made and large. Serbs want meat not plastic," Mr Jovanovic said, crossing himself while uttering oaths at the thought of a McDonald's chain in Yugoslavia.

Mr Jovanovic says that, despite offers from Japanese and Italian businessmen to open chains in Tokyo and Milan, he is content with just one little kiosk.

Pointing to an interminable line of Serbs of all ages munching *pleskavica* as they hurried to work, Mr Jovanovic was visibly both moved and proud.

When you've had a few and you're miles from home, it's not your brain that does the thinking.

These words were spoken by Robert.

Four years ago he was diagnosed as HIV positive. (HIV is the virus which causes AIDS.)

He has never had a homosexual experience, nor has he ever injected drugs.

He is 42 years old, and until recently he was an executive with a large multinational company.

To protect him, his name and some of the details have been changed, but in all other respects the story is true.

"You could say I'm part of the generation that thinks it invented sex.

I'd always taken it for granted that easy sex was my birthright, and during 20 years of working life I had plenty of chances, because travel was a large part of my job, mainly in Europe.

I'm not saying that all businessmen when they travel behave like I used to.

But enough of them do, and enough of them are going to screw up their lives if they carry on.

TEMPTATIONS.

When you're on your own abroad and you've just finished a tough day, you feel you deserve something more exciting than bed with a good book.

Drinks, dinner and drinks might kill three hours, but by then it's still only 10 or 11 o'clock and a lonely bed beckons.

When I was in that situation, and loosened up by the booze I'd be looking for a girl to chat up.

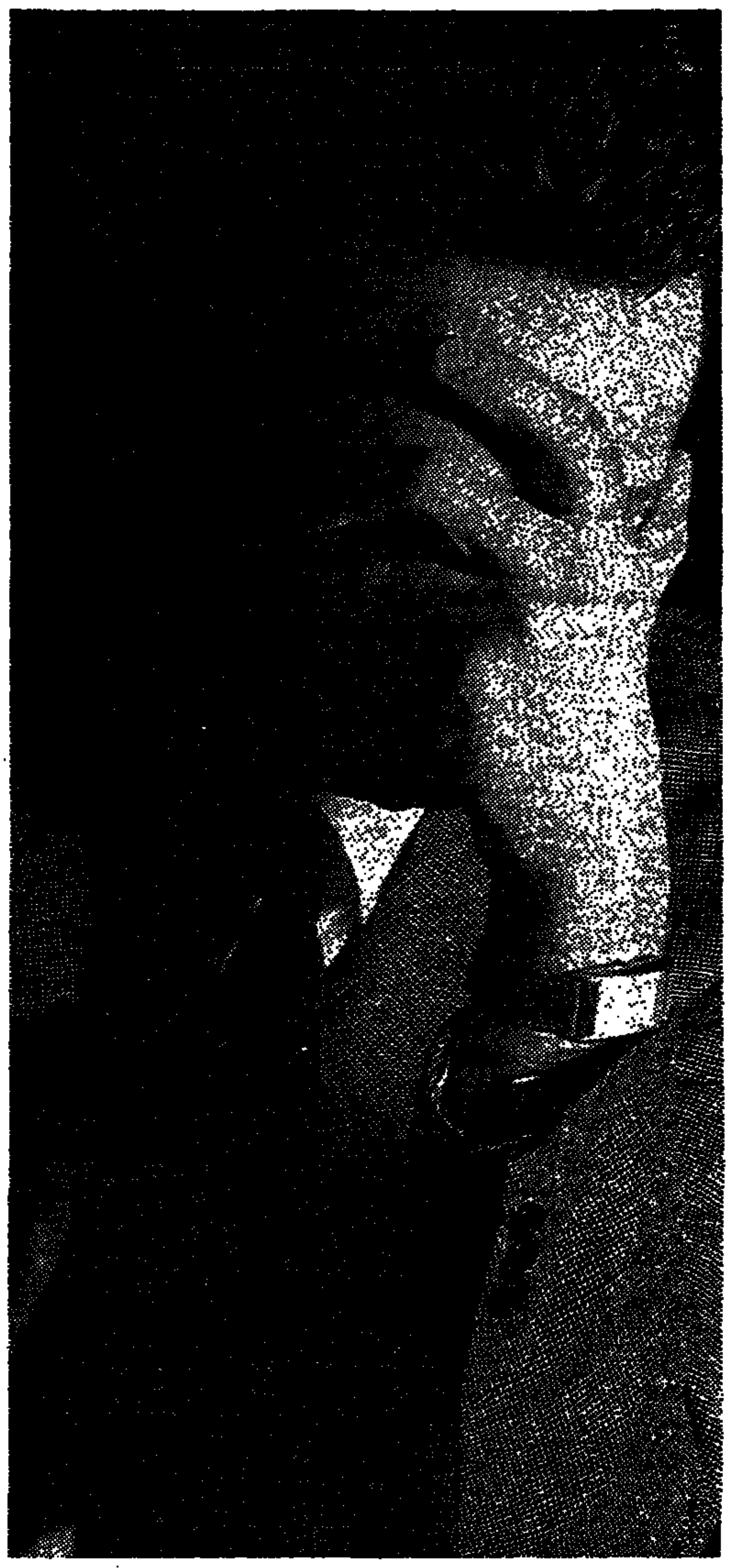
But if that didn't work, I'd be quite happy to pay for it.

If I was with a crowd of colleagues, and the drink had done its work, we'd end up egging each other on.

Someone would say half-jokingly, 'Let's have a look at the red-light district,' so we'd all lurch off down there.

Many of the people I was with, of course, would never dream of behaving like that at home.

At other times I'd be visiting client companies and I'd go out in the evening with them and their wives.



Often, a companion would be provided for me at dinner. Sometimes she'd be a secretary or P.A. with the firm, sometimes not.

Most of this, of course, was before the age of AIDS. I never wore a condom, because at that time people just didn't.

In any case, the biggest danger casual sex seemed to hold then was a dose of clap (which I *never got*).

If I could have that time of my life all over again, I'd think at least twice before having casual sex.

And if I ever did get tempted, I'd always use a condom.

If anyone thinks they'll find this difficult, they should keep reading.

CONSEQUENCES.

In 1980 I was very ill for six weeks.

After that, there was no more trouble until several years later.

I became ill again. I wasn't getting any better and nobody knew what was wrong.

I was living abroad at the time, and I went back to London for a blood test.

When they told me I was HIV positive, I went absolutely numb. I don't know how I got home. I wasn't really conscious.

It was like being told I was going to die, and that knowledge almost destroyed me completely.

I locked myself away.

I rejected other people, I could never have coped with them rejecting me, so I simply made their minds up for them.

I haven't told my parents because of the hurt that it will give them.

But from this time, there is one moment that haunts me above all others.

I was walking past a café one evening and at a table by a window I saw a boy and a girl of about 17 kissing and cuddling.

I burst into tears at the horror and misery of seeing what I felt I'd lost forever.

When it comes down to it, it isn't difficult to die.

What's difficult is living with a death sentence over you and knowing that you've lost so many things that make life worth living.

So, before you put yourself at risk of being infected, ask yourself one thing. Are you strong enough to cope with what I've been through?"

AVOIDING AIDS.

Eventually, with help, Robert learned to build a new life and start living again. He has not yet developed the full disease.

But since he became infected, the risk of AIDS has substantially increased, both in this country and abroad.

Unprotected sex with just one person with the virus can be enough to infect you, and you can't tell who has it by looking at them.

(Even if you ask them, they might not even know themselves.)

And the more partners you have, the more chance you'll come into contact with someone who has it.

If you have sex with a new partner, make sure it's your brain (and nothing else) that does the thinking.

Always use a condom.

Your life could depend on it.

HEALTH EDUCATION AUTHORITY

AIDS. YOU KNOW THE RISKS. THE DECISION IS YOURS.

For further information, phone the National AIDS Helpline on 0800 567 123, free of charge. For leaflets about how to protect your health abroad, contact your local DHSS office or Travel Agent. Or phone 0800 555 777, free of charge.

صكتا من الاهل

Bonn says KGB spy network broken in big police swoop

From John England, Bonn

A huge search-and-arrest operation by police and security men has made a "vast breach" in the KGB's spy network in West Germany, Dr Kurt Rebmann, the federal public prosecutor, said in Karlsruhe yesterday.

But he claimed that one of six alleged agents now in custody, an Austrian-born West German businessman named Herr Helmut Kolasch, aged 44, had passed secret documents on the Tornado and planned Jaeger 90 fighter aircraft to the KGB.

A federal criminal bureau specialist who searched Herr Kolasch's home for 13 hours had found message-coding papers hidden in a record cover and he was suspected of having spied for Moscow for money since 1971, Dr Rebmann said.

Another suspect, Herr Fayardo Amaya, aged 34, who was born in Colombia, was believed to have had links with an "Eastern" secret service while studying in East Germany in 1974-1975, and to have been a KGB agent since moving to West Germany in 1981.

The four other men under arrest, two engineers and two teachers, were all born in the Soviet Union.

The big spy sweep, carried out last week by Dr Rebmann's office, the counter-intelligence service, the federal criminal bureau, and the state criminal bureau of Baden-Württemberg and of North Rhine-Westphalia, involved nearly 170 police and security agents.

In two days they searched 33 homes and offices and detained 10 people, four of whom were later released.

The action came less than a week after the arrest of Frau Elke Falk, aged 43 and single, who was a secretary in the Ministry for Economic Cooperation, who is suspected of spying for the KGB for 10 years.

Like many other lonely government secretaries in Bonn in the past, it is alleged she was recruited by an Eastern "Romeo" and spied for love.

However, Dr Rebmann claimed that the operation was not based on information supplied by her. It was due alone to "research" by the counter-intelligence service.

The arrests are seen as a great success for the service, which was dealt a severe blow in August, 1985, when Herr Hans Joachim Tiedge, the head of its department dealing with East German espionage, defected to East Berlin.

The president of the service, Herr Gerhard Böden, said it was forced to develop new methods of spy detection "which have now proved successful". He also said Eastern secret services as a whole had become more active.

Dr Rebmann said many of the suspects were emigrants from the Soviet Union, and in future such people would be given stricter security checks. That would also apply to emigrants from other Warsaw Pact countries.

● **Seven escape:** Seven East Germans crossed to the West at the weekend, West German border police said yesterday (Reuter reports). They said two young East Germans managed to cross the heavily fortified East German frontier to reach the West without being fired on by border troops. Four more East Germans crossed between Czechoslovakia and Bavaria and a 19-year-old escaped near Fulda in the central state of Hesse.

Making music is child's play in Japan

Young cellists playing a classical French ballad during the 1988 Suzuki Method National Concert in Tokyo's Budokan Hall yesterday. More than 200 children from throughout Japan showed off the range of their musical talents at the concert.

Shooting rampage ends with suicide

Prague (AP) — Five people were shot dead by a young man who committed suicide and confessed to the crimes in a farewell letter.

A man was murdered in his home 25 miles east of Prague. Police then raided the nearby home of a 21-year-old and found the bodies of a woman, her two teenage daughters and her mother.

Chirac denial

Paris (Reuter) — The Prime Minister, M Jacques Chirac, denied that the release of Mr Mohamed Mouhajer, linked to bombings in Paris, was part of efforts to free French hostages in Lebanon.

Computer ban

Taipei (Reuter) — The US has asked Taiwan to ban some computer exports to Eastern Europe, fearing they could be used for military purposes.

Cyclone relief

Wellington (AP) — The New Zealand Government is giving £17.5 million to help victims of Cyclone Bola.

Rebel battle

Bangkok (AFP) — About 200 Burmese troops have been killed or wounded in an offensive against rebels.

Singapore's lone voice of dissent awaits some allies

By Gavin Bell

Mr Chiam See Tong cuts a lonely figure on the red leather benches of Singapore's neat, white colonial-style Parliament. Surrounded by members of the ruling People's Action Party, Mr Chiam has the unenviable task of being the only opposition MP in the 79-seat House.

As a seed of dissent in the forest of People's Action power, the bespectacled lawyer is frequently subjected to concerted contempt and ridicule.

During a debate on the state-run television service this week, Mr Chiam ventured to suggest that a commercial station would be a good idea. Under the present set-up, he said, too much news was devoted to ruling party activities.

Dr Yeo Ning Hong, the Minister for Communications and Information, replied that it was natural for government leaders to be highlighted because they were the nation's policy-makers. He then reminded Mr Chiam: "You do not, in any way whatsoever, decide on the policies of this country. You may make alternative proposals, but so far none of them has made any sense."

The incident at once reflected the supremacy of the ruling party and the impotence of those who have the temerity to oppose it.

Mr Lee Kuan Yew: Resolved to brook no opposition.

The absence of an effective opposition in Singapore is attributed variously to its economic and social progress under Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the Prime Minister, his resolve to brook no dissent and a climate of fear which his indomitable rule engenders.

Mr Chiam had an ally until two years ago in Mr J. B. Jeyaretnam, the leader of the Workers' Party, who had broken the mould of Singaporean politics by winning a by-election in 1981. An outspoken critic of the Government, Mr Jeyaretnam paid the penalty when he was convicted of falsifying his party's accounts, fined, jailed for a month and banned from politics for five years.

His departure left Mr Chiam with a procedural difficulty, since he cannot move a motion unless the ruling party agrees to second it.

"I cannot operate effectively as an opposition," Mr Chiam admitted to *The Times*. "One man cannot cover all the issues. Essentially my role is to show Singaporeans that under this system it is possible to criticize the Government and still keep your seat."

Mr Chiam, who read law at London's Inner Temple, is acutely aware of how far he can go in opposing People's Action Party policies. "Mr Jeyaretnam liked to come on strong, but I do not think it is a good idea for the opposition to come out with two guns blazing. If I go around making rash statements and get kicked out, I would be doing a disservice to the opposition and to all Singaporeans."

Mr Chiam says he has no firm evidence of improper government coercion against supporters of his Singapore Democratic Party, but that there is a widespread fear of losing jobs or being detained without trial under the Internal Security Act.

"More university graduates are showing interest in the opposition, but it is one thing to give a party moral support and quite another to come out in the open and stand for Parliament. There is this fear that if you oppose the Government openly, it will nab you under the Internal Security Act."

Disturbing evidence of surveillance was presented to *The Times* after a luncheon with Mr Chiam. On leaving the restaurant, I was followed by a person evidently belonging to a security agency.

By back-tracking while crossing a street, I compelled him to hide behind a pillar on the other side. When I confronted him and presented my card, I was given a flustered explanation that he had been "waiting for a friend" — this after trailing me halfway across the city.

An official at the Information Ministry was amused, but evidently not surprised, by the incident.

A local businessman explained the political climate: "Among the lower-income groups the feeling is 'don't bite the hand that feeds you', and among the better-educated it is 'why stick your head above the parapet?' There is no limit to how grubby they will be to get you, and they will." The result, according to a foreign resident, is like living in a strict sixth-form college.

Despite Mr Lee's evident intolerance of dissent, critical voices are occasionally raised. Mr Devan Nair, the former President who resigned in 1985, spoke later of growing discontent. "It is not without significance that public disquiet and disenchantment seem to have grown in direct proportion to what are seen as attempts to acquire monopoly control over the formation of public opinion," he said.

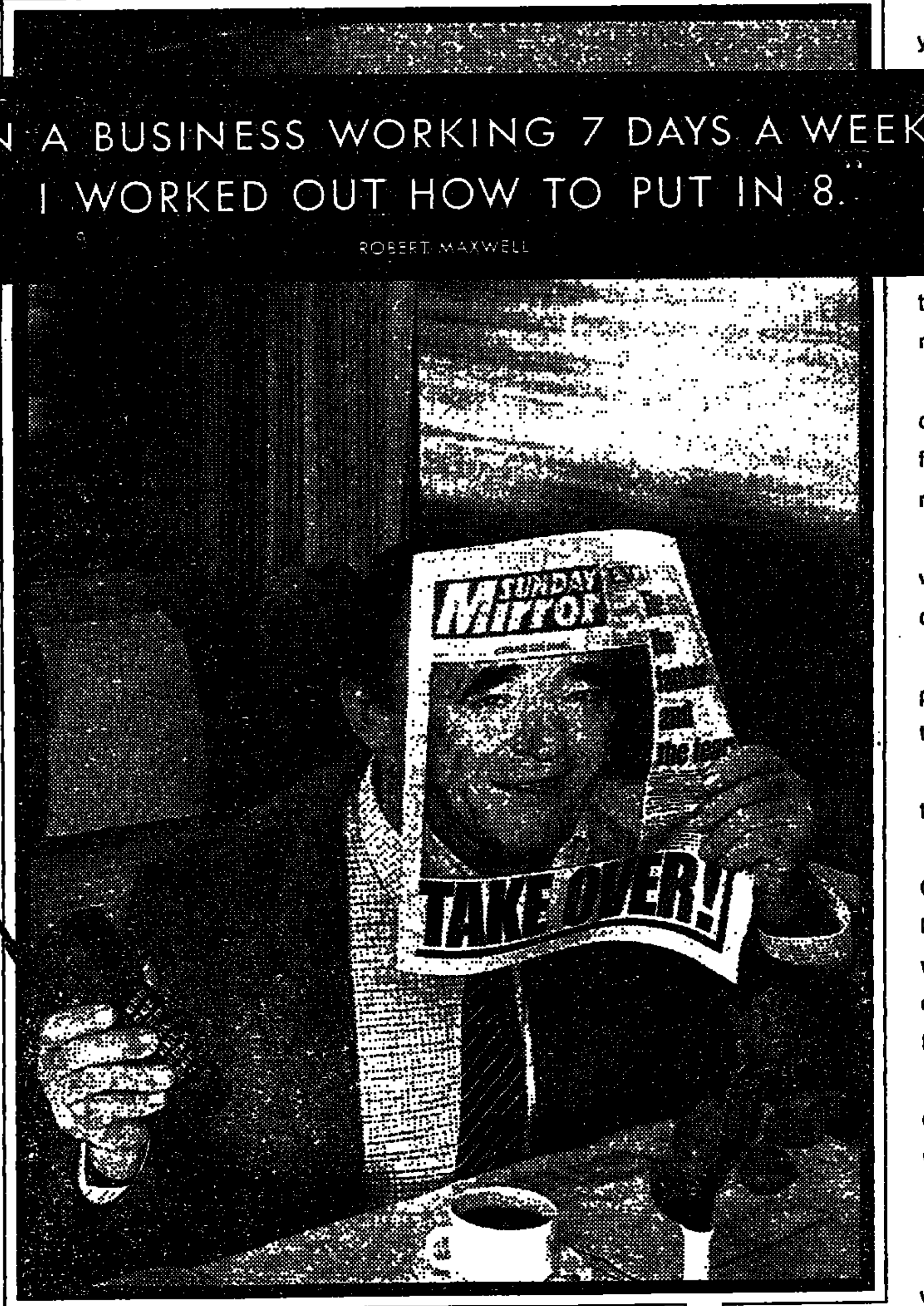
Disaffection with the People's Action Party was reflected in the 1984 general election, which saw its share of the vote drop to 62.9 per cent from 75.5 per cent in 1980.

With elections expected this year, the Government is proposing to change the ground rules by requiring up to half of the candidates stand in groups of three, one of whom must be a Malay or a member of another minority community.

Alone in the bastion of People's Action power, Mr Chiam remains hopeful that he will have some allies soon.

"IN A BUSINESS WORKING 7 DAYS A WEEK, I WORKED OUT HOW TO PUT IN 8."

ROBERT MAXWELL



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Manila takes hard line on future of American bases

From Humphrey Hawksley, Manila

The Philippines yesterday paved the way for tough talking with the United States next week on the future of the American military bases on its soil, saying that the issue divided its people, that other non-communist Asian countries should share the responsibility for regional security, and that Washington paid too little for using the facilities.

Mr Raul Manglapus, the Foreign Secretary, declared in a key policy speech that "the powerful shadow of America remains cast over our land", recalling the Philippines' 50 years as a US colony.

He added that his country was exposed to American global defence strategy — which in the cases of the Clark air base and Subic naval base north of Manila took care of US security from Africa to the Pacific. Mr Manglapus said: "We are alone, left alone to deal with a divisive issue, whose polarizing impact impairs our drive to stabilize our renewed democracy. The dimensions and perils of this polarization have not yet been properly understood by our friends."

His outspoken stand is bound to concern US officials. But he still left open many avenues for compromise.

Mr Manglapus said that the Philippine side would negotiate in the national interest, but he made it unclear whether it would be preferable to squeeze more money out of Washington or to end the polarization among the people, which the bases created, by getting rid of them. He criticized Manila's non-communist neighbours, saying that they had quietly told the US of their appreciation for its military presence in the Philippines, but offered no help.

Mr Manglapus presented a powerful argument, citing Europe, where he said that a parliamentary majority government would not last one day "if it had to admit to its constituents that it alone, and no other European country or ally, was to host the American bases for the protection of Europe and the United States".

Money was another key factor. Mr Manglapus said that Israel and Egypt, with no bases, got massive US aid. Israel received $3,621 million (£1,972 million) in 1986, and Egypt received $2,539 million. Greece, Turkey, Portugal and Spain received almost $1,300 million in aid for its bases, while the Philippines, at $180 million a year, was given only a fraction of that.

Mr Manglapus said that the value of the bases in Europe was limited compared with the installations in the Philippines. The Clark and Subic bases "cover the Western Pacific and the Indian Ocean, an area which includes Australia, South and South-East Asia, the Middle East, the east coast of Africa, Japan, Taiwan, South Korea and China. They are the largest American military bases outside the United States."

Diplomats here voiced surprise at the tough public stand shown by Mr Manglapus over the negotiations — which is far removed from the more low-key approach of Mr Fidel Ramos, the Defence Minister — and observers are asking how much is rhetoric and how much is genuine.

Mr Manglapus even said that studies were under way to convert the military facilities to civilian use, and that talks could raise the anti-nuclear provision in the Philippine Constitution, which if implemented to the full would make it impossible for the US to operate from here. Observers think that the bases will stay, but Washington will find next week's talks far tougher than expected.

There were further reminders yesterday of the inherent internal instability and violence in the Philippines to which Mr Manglapus alluded.

Suspected communist guerrillas killed seven people and badly wounded Mr Prospero Oreta, the mayor of a Manila suburb, in what the military said was one of the insurgents' boldest attacks in the capital for many years. Later in the day, the brother of a left-wing politician was shot dead, and police said that the act might have been carried out by right-wing gunmen in retaliation for the morning's ambush.

The killings came after a period of quiet on Manila's violent streets, and on the eve of the 19th anniversary of the founding of the communist New People's Army.

Witnesses said that Mr Oreta, who is mayor in Malabon, was travelling in a two-car convoy which was ambushed when it crossed a narrow bridge.

A woman bystander said: "I saw about six men. They surrounded the cars and fired into them before running away in different directions."

Two soldiers, a policeman, a driver, an aide and two bodyguards died immediately. Mr Oreta underwent emergency surgery, and was said last night to be out of danger.

He had reportedly made enemies in a recent campaign to crack down on illegal gambling syndicates, but the military said it believed that the attack was carried out by an NPA "sparrow" unit, the name given to the urban assassination squads. Mr Oreta is a distant relative of President Aquino.

Later in the day, about six miles from the ambush spot, suspected right-wing assassins killed Mr Francisco Castro. He was driving in the car belonging to his brother, José, a founder of the People's Party, who said he believed he had been the target.

New York (AP) — Twenty-six journalists were killed in the line of duty in 1987, 11 of them in the Philippines, according to a report by the Committee to Protect Journalists, a non-profit organization founded in 1981 by American journalists. Fifty-nine were assaulted and more than 185 arrested or kidnapped.

Nicaragua frees first rebel prisoners

One of the 100 Contra supporters released from jail under the peace agreement is embraced by his mother, wife and sister.

Contras in peace zone dispute

From David Gollob, Managua

The Nicaraguan Government and the Contras yesterday prepared for further negotiations at the Sapoa border post, where the initial ceasefire agreement was signed last Wednesday. The talks will focus on the definition of the ceasefire zones into which Contra forces must withdraw by April 15 at the latest.

The Contras claim partial control over nearly two-thirds of Nicaragua, a claim disputed by the Government. Arguments over the size and location of the ceasefire zones are expected, reflecting the anxiety of each side to retain a strategic advantage.

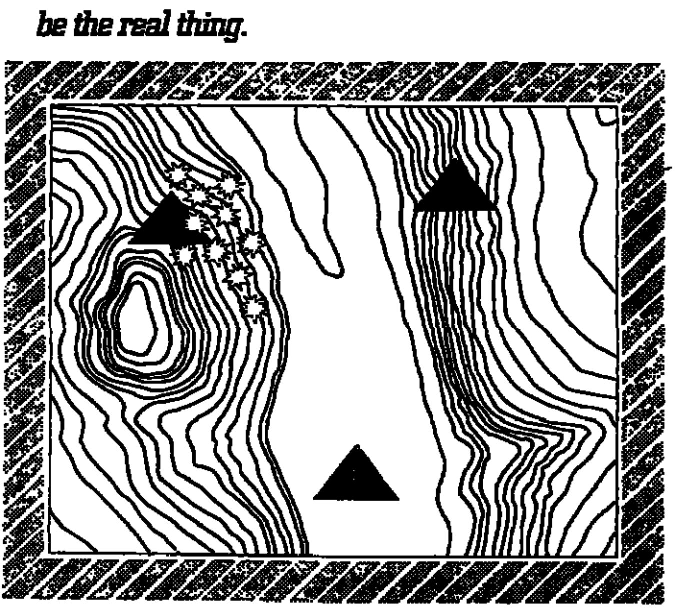
On Sunday 100 prisoners were freed as the Government took its first step to comply with last week's agreement.

The prisoners, convicted or accused of aiding the Contras, were the first batch of 1,500 who will receive amnesty and freedom. Half of the remainder will be released when Contra forces have withdrawn into the ceasefire zones. The remaining 700 will be freed only when a final peace agreement is signed.

A further 1,800 members of the National Guard of the former dictator, Anastasio Somoza, will be eligible for release from jail once a final agreement is signed.

Their cases will be individually reviewed by the human rights office of the Organization of American States. "This is extremely positive," Señor Mauricio Diaz, leader of the Popular Social Christian Party, said as he walked with some of the prisoners whose release he had obtained. "Neither the Contras nor the Government have any excuse for holding back the peace process now that it has come this far."

Señor Diaz said most of the prisoners were peasants of humble origin and only minor importance.



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Extreme right set to score a win in Mulder territory

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South Africa's extreme-right Conservative Party is expected to score another solid victory today in an all-white parliamentary by-election in the urban constituency of Randfontein, some 30 miles west of Johannesburg.

The by-election, a straight contest between the Conservatives and President Botha's ruling National Party — will also mark a fresh episode in the saga of the fluctuating political fortunes of the Mulder dynasty.

Dr Connie Mulder, a former Minister of Information, won the seat for the Conservatives in the white general election of May, 1987, turning a government majority of 922 into a CP majority of 1,732. It was sweet revenge for Dr Mulder who would probably have succeeded John Vorster as Prime Minister had it not been for his involvement in the Department of Information scandal in the late 1970s.

In January of this year, Dr Mulder died at the age of 62. His younger son, Dr Corné Mulder, has stepped into his father's shoes and is confidently expecting to retain Randfontein for the Conservatives.

If so, it will be the second political success for the Mulder family this month. Dr Corné Mulder's elder brother, Pieter, held the Schweizer-Reneke seat in the rural south-western Transvaal for the Conservatives in a by-election on March 2, quadrupling the party's majority.

The Conservatives, whose party came into being in 1982 as a result of a split in Mr Botha's National Party, only won 22 out of the 166 directly-elected seats in the white House of Assembly at the general election in May, 1987. But that was enough to enable the Conservatives to oust the liberal Progressive Federal Party as the official opposition.

On present growth trends, it is estimated that the Conservatives could win up to 40 more seats — mainly in the Transvaal and the Orange Free State — at another general election. That would still leave it short of a majority in the House of Assembly, and many observers believe it has already reached its ceiling.

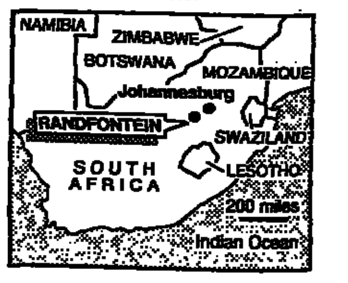
But the threat posed by the Conservatives, who advocate a return to rigid old-style apartheid and would reinstate those apartheid measures repealed by the Nationalists, has paralysed the Government and almost halted its hesitant reform programme.

Dr Boy Geldenhuys, the Nationalist candidate in Randfontein, which has 22,000 mainly Afrikaans-speaking white voters, complains that the Conservatives are exploiting "people's fear of blacks".

Among the issues in the by-election campaign have been the Government's plan to relax the Group Areas Act to permit multiracial residential areas where that is desired by the local white inhabitants, as well as proposals to create new black townships in the region.

A curious feature of the campaign has been the relatively low-key coverage in the government-supporting Afrikaans press, compared with the splash treatment of the previous by-election campaigns in Schweizer-Reneke and Standerton, when much was made of the link between the Conservatives and the neo-Nazi Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging.

It is almost as if the Government has resigned itself to another heavy defeat, and has decided that the less said about it the better.



Four shot dead in Botswana raid

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

A South African commando unit killed four people in a raid early yesterday on a house in the northern outskirts of Gaborone, the capital of Botswana. Pretoria claimed afterwards that the victims were all "terrorists" of the African National Congress.

President Masire of Botswana condemned what he called "this dastardly attack and murder of innocent people in Botswana by the South African Army". He said three women and one man had been killed in the raid.

The raid came only 24 hours before today's white by-election in Randfontein where the Government is opposed by the extreme-right Conservative Party, which advocates stronger action against neighbouring countries which shelter ANC members.

A communiqué issued by the South African Defence Force said that the raid was a sequel to one last Friday in which three suspected "terrorists" were killed by a patrol on the border with Botswana.

"Following up on intelligence gathered during Friday's operation, an element of the Defence Force killed four more terrorists in the suburb of Thiring on the northern outskirts of Gaborone early today. This is further evidence that ANC terrorists, originating from Zambia and Zimbabwe, use Botswana as a transit route to infiltrate into South Africa", the communiqué said.

The Botswana police said the attack occurred at about 1am. The raiders shot their victims and then set them alight. Local people said they heard a helicopter and that the occupants of the house had returned the raiders' fire. In 1985 South Africans raided houses in Gaborone, killing 12 people.

هكذا من الاصل

SPECTRUM

Bookworms: the inside story

So what are they reading? Last month we compiled a recommended book list for all children. Today George Hill finds out where the pocket money goes

PAUL LOVELACE

Lasting lessons: the bookshop at Imberhorne School is open every day of term and has an annual turnover of £7,000

Hardeep, in jeans with a Sikh top-knot on his head, shyly picked up *Mrs Wobble the Waitress* from the row of books laid out on a bench, and sat on the floor to pore over it. A six-year-old pupil at Bannockburn Primary School, Plumstead, Essex, he was also clutching a dog-eared coupon book. "How much money have I now?" he whispered to Jill Verde, the teacher in charge of the bookshop set up in the school hall every Friday.

"Twenty-six pence — not enough to buy another book yet," she told him.

Bannockburn is one of 7,500 schools which have joined the Books for Students school bookshop scheme, run by a subsidiary of W.H. Smith. Every Friday Mrs Verde unlocks a cupboard in the hall and lays out her stock of several hundred paperbacks. Some of the school's older children help unpack the stock, and make hand-coloured posters to brighten up the display. It is a pretty sight, and a powerful tool in promoting the habit of reading.

"There are no bookshops in this area, and many of our pupils don't get read to at home," says Mrs Verde. "Browsing is as important as buying. Let's face it, if some of these children are not introduced to books here, they never will be."

Mrs Verde sells nearly a hundred books a week. Class teachers exchange the small sums children bring from home for 20p stamps to stick into their coupon-books and save up until they can take *Burglar Bill* or *The Worst Witch* home as their own.

Books for Students provides schools with stock on a sale-or-return basis, and advice for the teachers organizing the shops about what titles are proving most popular. The shops range from a suitcase set up in a classroom once or twice a term to fully-stocked lock-up shops open every day.

Graham Townson, head of religious education at Imberhorne School, East Grinstead, Surrey, runs one of the most ambitious. Imberhorne is a comprehensive with 1,000 pupils, with junior and senior sections on separate sites, and a branch of the shop in each. The senior branch is in a purpose-built glass frame structure in the lobby of the school hall. It has a turnover of £7,000 a year.

"That includes stationery as well as books," says Townson. "Any profits are ploughed back into improving the shop and expanding its stock. A factor in our success is being right at the heart of the school, and not somewhere out at the edge of things. Our major sale is study aids — set books, background reading and so on."

Imberhorne's stock, laid out on special display tables, with spotlights and printed posters, ranges from *Teach Yourself Calculus* to Agatha Christie, pop group photo-albums, *Care of Your Rabbit* and *Cyril Ray's Guide to Wine* (a significant part of turnover is in books bought as presents for the family).

Townson has the confidence and resources to order books outside those recommended by Books for Students. Most teachers stick more closely to the lists, because it is difficult for them to keep in touch with the ever-changing trends in children's reading. The suppliers are pragmatic in their recommendations.

"We don't want to sound too evangelical," says Mary Emerson, general manager of Books for Students. "We are much more interested that children should read what they find exciting. Even if they prefer something a bit tatty, that's better than nothing. School bookshops are a chance for them to browse without over-much influence from parents. The temptation for grown-ups is to direct them towards the books they knew as children, and miss out on all the exciting books which are coming out today".

The Books for Students sales list therefore comes as close as it may be possible to get to a list of the books children *really like*. We print today for the first time their top 40 fiction best-sellers for last term. Beside them we are reprinting the list of 50 books recommended by our own panel of experts in children's literature, which we published on February 19.

The comparison is striking and instructive. At first glance one might suppose that a generation is growing up who do not know or care about Peter Rabbit, Pooh, or Alice. But some of the apparent differences rest on special factors — Peter Rabbit is not available in paperback, for instance.

"We were asked to come up with all-time greats, and no one would expect a selection on that basis to coincide with a list of top buys," says Bryan Alderson, children's books critic for *The Times* and one of those who helped compile *The Times 50*. "Given that, both lists are full of books likely to draw kids on rather than leave them where they are".

"Classics are the kind of books that many children will have in the house anyway," says another panellist, Nina Bawden, perhaps rather optimistically. "I read the *Just So* stories to my children from the copy I had as a child".

But Professor Inga-Stina Ewbank of Leeds University and another of our panellists is more concerned about the absence of older classics from the new list. "I'm sure promotion has much to do with it. It bothers me a great deal that *Little Women* and E. Nesbit's books don't appear. The popularity of Judy Blume doesn't surprise me. She is a sort of consciousness-raising Enid Blyton: no one would put her on a list of classics, but she is lively, and chidren do enjoy her."

One difference between the lists is that our panellists were concerned to provide a varied range, while the best-seller list reflects the delight children take in following one author right along the shelf. "There is a run-on effect. Look at Roald Dahl: but his stories are far richer in incident and vocabulary than some of the big best-sellers of the past," says Bryan Alderson.

All agree that much depends on what teachers promote by discussing and reading in class. Jill Verde at Bannockburn even had on her shelves *Moonfleet* — one of our 50, and a splendid old melodrama, but a big bite of print for a primary school pupil. No one has bought it yet, but she does not despair that some Plumstead 11-year-old may get bitten with the desire to know what is hidden in that well at Carisbrook Castle.

THE TIMES 50: BOOKS CHILDREN SHOULD READ

In order of votes cast by our panellists

AGES 3-7

Just So Stories	Rudyard Kipling
The Tale of Peter Rabbit	Beatrix Potter
Charlotte's Web	E. B. White
The Very Hungry Caterpillar	Eric Carle
The World of Pooh	A. A. Milne
Dogger	Shirley Hughes
Mr Gumpy's Outing	John Burningham
Where the Wild Things Are	Maurice Sendak
Each Peach Pear Plum	Allan and Janet Ahlberg
Mr Magnolia	Quentin Blake
Rosie's Walk	Pat Hutchins
Now We Are Six	*A. A. Milne*
Where's Spot?	Eric Hill

AGES 8-11

The Wind in the Willows	Kenneth Grahame
The Hobbit	J.R.R. Tolkien
Tom's Midnight Garden	Philippa Pearce
BFG	Roald Dahl
The Iron Man	Ted Hughes
The Secret Garden	Frances Hodgson Burnett
A Christmas Carol	Charles Dickens
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe	C.S. Lewis
Alice in Wonderland	Lewis Carroll
Complete Nonsense Book	Edward Lear
The Ghost of Thomas Kempe	Penelope Lively
The Silver Sword	Ian Serraillier
Stig of the Dump	Clive King
The Stone Book	Alan Garner
The Treasure Seekers	E. Nesbit
The Turbulent Term of Tyke Tyler	Gene Kemp
The Wolves of Willoughby Chase	Joan Aiken

AGES 12-18

The Eagle of the Ninth	Rosemary Sutcliff
Treasure Island	R. L. Stevenson
Brother in the Land	Robert Swindells
Smith	Leon Garfield
The Machine Gunners	Robert Westall
1984	George Orwell
Carrie's War	Nina Bawden
Catcher in the Rye	*J. D. Salinger*
The Box of Delights	John Masefield
The Diary of Anne Frank	Anne Frank
The Earthsea Trilogy	Ursula Le Guin
Emil and the Detectives	Erich Kastner
Goldengrove	Jill Paton Walsh
Huckleberry Finn	Mark Twain
Jane Eyre	Charlotte Brontë
The Hound of the Baskervilles	A. Conan Doyle
Lord of the Flies	William Golding
Moonfleet	J. Meade Falkner
The Owl Service	Alan Garner
Pride and Prejudice	Jane Austen

TOP TENS: THE CHILDREN'S CHOICE

In order of copies sold in 7,500 school bookshops around the country during the winter term 1987 (details compiled by Books for Students).

PICTURE BOOKS

Funnybones	Allan and Janet Ahlberg
The Very Hungry Caterpillar	Eric Carle
Burglar Bill	Allan and Janet Ahlberg
The Enormous Crocodile	Roald Dahl
The Tiger Who Came to Tea	Judith Kerr
Mrs Wobble the Waitress	Allan and Janet Ahlberg
The 101 Dalmatians	Walt Disney version
The Very Worst Monster	Pat Hutchins
Dogger	Shirley Hughes
Gorilla	Anthony Browne

AGES 6-9

Fantastic Mr Fox	Roald Dahl
George's Marvellous Medicine	Roald Dahl
The Twits	Roald Dahl
The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark	Jill Tomlinson
A Bad Spell for the Worst Witch	Jill Murphy
The Worst Witch	Jill Murphy
Flat Stanley	Jeff Brown
The Hen Who Wouldn't Give Up	Jill Tomlinson
Dinner Ladies Don't Count	Bernard Ashley
The Village Dinosaur	Phyllis Arkle

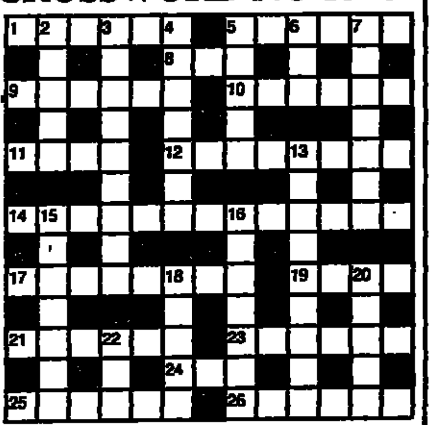
AGES 9-12

BFG	Roald Dahl
James and the Giant Peach	Roald Dahl
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory	Roald Dahl
Charlotte's Web	E.B. White
The Witches	Roald Dahl
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe	C.S. Lewis
The Hobbit	J.R.R. Tolkien
Danny, Champion of the World	Roald Dahl
The Iron Man	Ted Hughes
Superfudge	Judy Blume

TEENAGE FICTION

The Growing Pains of Adrian Mole	Sue Townsend
The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole, Aged 13½	Sue Townsend
Kes	Barry Hines
Deenie	Judy Blume
Tiger Eyes	Judy Blume
Buddy	Nigel Hinton
My Family and Other Animals	Gerald Durrell
Starring Sally J. Freedman as Herself	Judy Blume
The Machine Gunners	Robert Westall
Lord of the Flies	William Golding

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1526



ACROSS
1 Chat (6)
5 Greece/Turkey sea (6)
8 Increases (3)
9 Main body organs (6)
10 Deprive of food (6)
11 Prophet (4)
12 Not fully grown (8)
14 Bethany Gethsemane hill (5,2,6)
17 Look like (8)
19 Chief Venetian magistrate (4)
21 Tapped (6)
23 Extorts (6)
24 Generic code acid (1,1,1)
25 Thin (6)
26 Score (6)

DOWN
2 Sheep-like (5)
3 Pleasant smell (9)
4 Samurai code (7)
5 Indian tea state (5)
6 Indian coast resort (3)
7 Hostile (7)
13 Mediocre (5,4)
15 Egyptian monument (7)
16 Consume too much (7)
18 Pal (5)
20 Gain access to (3.2)
22 Range of knowledge (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 1525

ACROSS: 1 Karnak 5 Cope 8 Legal 9 Nemesis 11 Browbeat 13 Away 15 Vancouver 18 Able 19 Scansion 22 Thoreau 23 Media 24 Beak 25 Thrush

DOWN: 2 Anglo 3 Nil 4 Kangaroo court 5 Come 6 Postwar 7 Clubs 10 Says 12 Bent 14 Avon 15 Volpone 16 Bait 17 Sneak 20 Indus 21 Leak 23 Mar

Heart of oaks

How forests are helping to breathe new life and fresher air into the inner city

Sheepwash is no ordinary forest. It is 70 acres of worked-out claypit and mineshaft next to an Inter-City railway line. Its soil retains traces of metal poisoning, the residues of a defunct ironworks. Through the pores of its landscape it exhales methane — marsh gas, as it was once known — generated by thousands of tons of buried rubbish.

Sheepwash is new territory for Bert Brooke, who has spent 40 years ranging over vaster and purer plantations in the Cumbrian fells, the Forest of Arden and Cannock Chase. Brooke's motivation is simple. Trees, he says, are good for the soul. More than 300 industrialists, planners, developers and conservationists gather today in the Black Country for what is billed as Britain's first conference on urban forestry. And if Sheepwash, close to the heart of West Bromwich, is one of its most typical exhibits, then Brooke, thought to be this country's first full-time urban forester, is its prime specimen.

Planting forests in cities is one of the newest and most intriguing weapons in the expanding armoury of urban renewal. Today's conference, at Wolverhampton Polytechnic, stems from an initiative two years ago by the Department of the Environment which at first generated "healthy scepticism", according to Peter Langley, the DoE official who chairs the Black Country working party.

That view has now been considerably revised. Present at today's meeting, which is backed by 19 environmental organizations, will be companies such as ICI, Esso, Wimpey and the CEGB, as well as the Forestry Commission.

Forest cover in cities in England and Wales is already estimated at more than 70,000 acres and is growing fast. At least 500 separate patches of derelict land are being planted, according to Langley. Up to 40 sites in the Black Country, for example; in Glasgow more than 100 areas have been earmarked for forestry; in London, last year saw the launch of the Forest of London project, backed by UK2000 and Barclays Bank. In all of them, native species are preferred to conifers.

The concept of the urban forest is essentially American, as is the contribution it can make to urban renewal. "We want the idea of the urban forest to become central to the whole idea of regenerating inner cites," Langley says. "Trees are more than just landscaping. They bring a feel of the countryside back into the town."

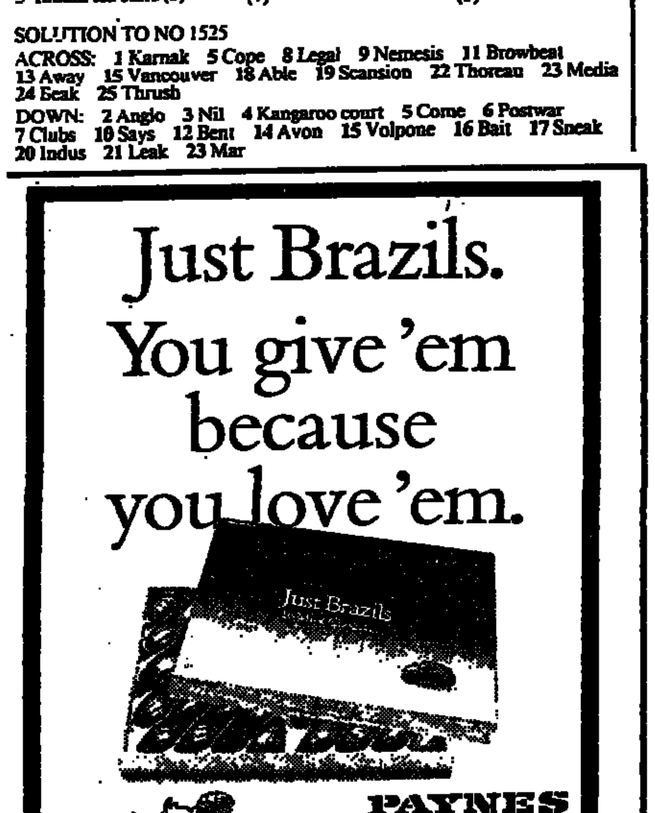
There are other less tangible benefits. Experts cite studies showing not only that trees "air-condition" cities — eating pollutants, reducing glare and noise, freshening up the atmosphere by aiding the dew cycle — but that they benefit people psychologically. Hospital patients recover faster if they can look out on trees, for instance.

They can also combine jobs in timber-based industries with recreation, capable of absorbing thousands of people and providing a vast adventure playground for city children. Rick Minter, a Countryside Commission conservationist, cites Bos Forest Park in Amsterdam, 1,400 acres of woodland visited each year by up to six million people.

Brooke expresses it more poetically. "Staring derelict land in the face all the time is pretty grim. A forest is a sweet environment. It's changing all the year round. It's always alive. It's what life's all about."

David Nicholson-Lord

New Words for Old will be appearing tomorrow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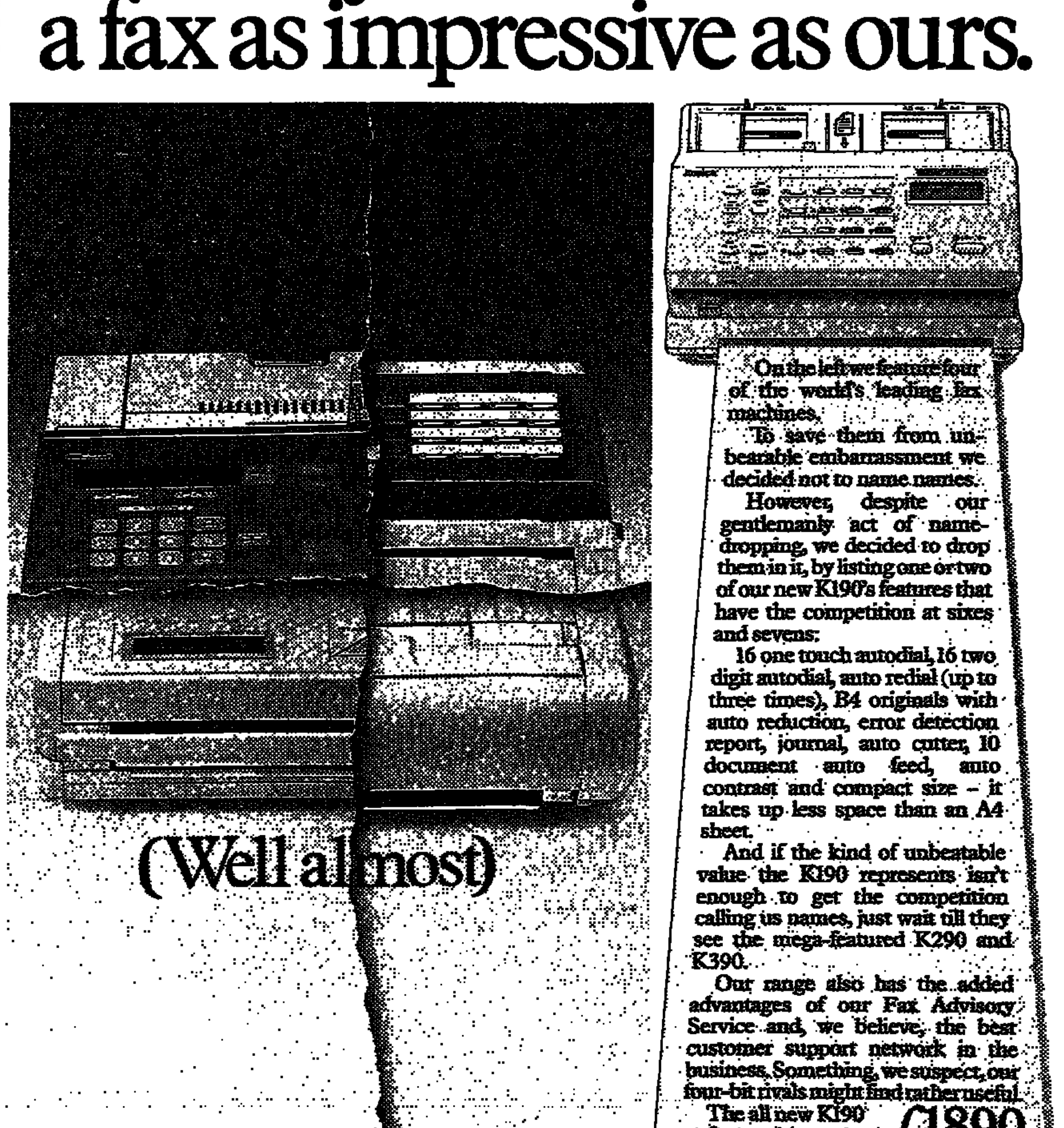
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TIMES DIARY

SHIRLEY LOWE

The boys in dark blue have just rowed past my window. It is the 134th Oxford and Cambridge boat race on Saturday and already excitement is mounting; by which I mean that there is one man on the towpath studying the Oxford form *through fieldglasses. Probably the Cambridge coach.*

Because our house overlooks the river we've been hosting the obligatory boat race party and watching this sporting non-event for more than 20 years. The fact that the same team nearly always wins and the crew that gets away first usually gets to Mortlake first, makes this contest as exhilarating as television darts, though we have had the odd moments of drama. The first lady cox, indistinguishable from a male cox as she huddled down; and the time when Oxford, or was it Cambridge? (as John Snagge might have said) sank slowly before our eyes.

One real pleasure is the privilege of a grandstand view. As one of the daughters put it, when she was eight: "Isn't it lovely us in here, cosy and warm, and all those people out there getting wet." Exactly. Now even this pleasure has diminished since there are no crowds to crow over. Last year there was a mere sprinkling of spectators below us, half of them hopefully trying to flog expensive rosettes in two tones of blue.

On the memorable occasion four years ago when the Cambridge cox absentmindedly rammed his boat into a stationary barge by Putney Bridge, nobody in our party except me (the anxious hostess who had organized everything else so nicely) appeared to notice that there was no race to watch. I'm beginning to wonder . . . does anyone, except the boys' mothers, care any more whether Oxford or Cambridge wins?

I have a novelist friend in New York who shares a maid with Susan Gutfreund. This guarantees my friend endless free lunches on the Le Cirque circuit, where ladies lunch and shred reputations, because Susan Gutfreund's gaffes and gaucheries are valuable social currency.

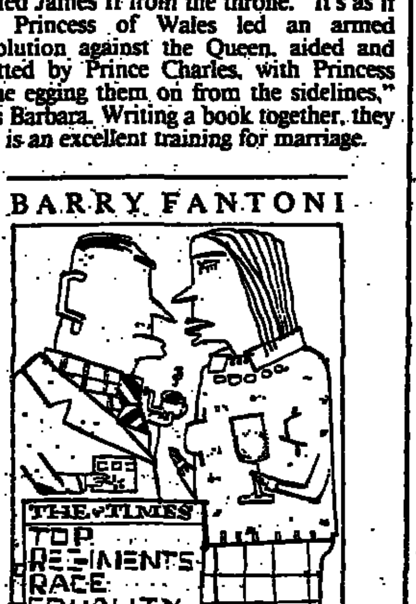
"It's so expensive to be rich," said Susan, after she and her two-year-old son and the nanny had to put up at the Ritz while she renovated her French home. Susan is an ex-stewardess and assiduous social climber who, seven years ago, married Salomon Brothers's chairman John Gutfreund, the made-good bond trader who has not been doing so good since Black Monday, and since, say the lunching ladies, his beautiful younger wife channelled his mind off money and on to Monet (they have one in *the hall) and the finer things of life.*

Everyone titters at the way Susan spent more than $20 million decorating their Fifth Avenue duplex and then repeated the process in Paris, picking up a lot of fancy French ways en route. "Madame is in the fumoir," her butler tells telephone callers, and when she was introduced to Nancy Reagan, Mrs Gutfreund curtsied: "*Bonsoir madame.*" The man at *Spy* magazine, which is like *Private Eye* only ruder and funnier, says that although they make a regular practice of sneering at Mrs Gutfreund, they don't see any point in printing a satirical article on her since nothing could improve on the original. "She even takes a stretched limo to her exercise classes."

On the day of the England-Holland friendly match at Wembley, The Netherlands ambassador hosted another friendly Anglo-Dutch occasion, a party for the Dutch journalist Henri van der Zee and his wife, the English writer Barbara Griggs, who have just published their second book on William and Mary. They married while they were writing the first book. This in spite of Barbara rushing back from the British Library crying out with pleasure that she'd discovered Mary's detailed dress bill, revealing that the Queen spent £1,321 in nine months on accessories *alone*, and Henri saying they wouldn't have room for all that, he'd just been researching the London Jacobite plot and it was absolutely fascinating stuff.

Now, 15 years and two children later, they've written *1688, Revolution in the Family*, which tells how William and Mary ousted James II from the throne. "It's as if the Princess of Wales led an armed revolution against the Queen, aided and abetted by Prince Charles, with Princess Anne egging them on from the sidelines," says Barbara. Writing a book together, they say, is an excellent training for marriage.

BARRY FANTONI



'Why all the fuss, there's the Black Watch, isn't there?'

I've *always believed that the more you* spend on holidays the less you enjoy them. Fresh fish in a Greek taverna is more gourmet than is international cuisine at the local four-star hotel, and the people you meet on a package tour are generally jollier than the seriously rich shipmates who want you to make up a fourth at bridge as you cruise the world. Now I'm extending *this theory to air travel.*

On a recent trip my partner travelled first class and I crouched gratefully in economy on my free spouse ticket. For lunch my husband was served sole drenched in a pretentious wine sauce and I had perfect pasta and salad. At tea-time, first-class passengers were plied with tiny sandwiches and gateaux and we got fresh orange juice and a *slice of British Rail's ultimate* delicacy, wrapped cake oozing with cherries. To make the journey even more irritating for the VIP, he suffered a lively travelling companion who pruned his fingernails and chatted for six hours 10 minutes, and I had three empty seats to myself.

Richard Owen on the forces pushing Britain to monetary union

When EMS meets 1992

By coincidence, EEC finance ministers will next meet in Luxembourg on April 18, the very day that Lord Young, the Trade and Industry Secretary, launches the British 1992 Campaign at Lancaster House, with the aid of Mrs Thatcher.

Lord Young, while alerting British business to the opportunities of the unified European market that will come into being in 1992, will once again make clear that he sees no connection between that and British *membership of the European* Monetary System (EMS).

To some extent, Lord Young is right. The European Commission's proposals for 1992 do not specifically link the single market to British entry into the EMS. The EMS dates from 1979, when the 1992 programme was a glint in the Commission's eye. *It was* intended as a way of stabilizing European currency fluctuations after the collapse of the post-war Bretton Woods fixed exchange rate system and the partial failure of the European "snake," which allowed fluctuations within certain limits.

The EMS, by contrast, is a system for full currency management, under which currencies taking part in the Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM) have fixed rates against the Ecu (European Currency Unit).

In other words there are the seeds here of a common monetary system, and, indeed, a common currency – the Ecu, which at present is notional but could one day replace the pound, mark and franc in your pocket, thus making life a great deal easier for both businessmen and travellers in a frontier-free Europe.

The eight currencies *participating in the Exchange* Rate Mechanism have their Ecu rate regularly realigned at a bargaining session of European finance ministers. When a currency reaches its floor, the central banks intervene in foreign exchange markets to support it. To allow this, there is a reserve, called the European Monetary Co-operation Fund, which draws on member states' gold and dollar reserves.

The consensus, after nearly a decade, is that the EMS works remarkably well. Among other benefits, it has reduced inflation differentials between EEC economies. But the main drawback *nine years on is that Britain* remains firmly outside the ERM and British Chancellors are reduced to sitting in on EEC realignments as observers.

Greece, Spain and Portugal remain outside the system because as recent EEC members their economies and national currencies are not yet strong enough. Only Britain shuns the EMS for doctrinal reasons, namely Mrs Thatcher's belief that the pound fares better on its own. Far from resolving the issue, the recent row on exchange-rate intervention between the Prime Minister and Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor (who supports British membership of the EMS) seems to have made matters worse; the "broad agreement" achieved at No 10 on Friday avoided the EMS issue altogether.

Yet if economic and monetary union is not formally part of 1992, the whole logic of the programme points in that direction. Jacques Delors, President of the Commission, has made it clear that Brussels' long-term aim is a European Central Bank. This is supported by Edouard Balladur, the French Finance Minister, and by Hans Dietrich Genscher, the West German *Foreign Minister – though not*, for the time being, either by Gerhard Stoltenberg, the West German Finance Minister, or by the powerful Bundesbank, the West German Central Bank.

Herr Otto Pöhl, the Bundesbank President, observed earlier this month that a European Central Bank could only come about when the Ecu was a real rather than notional currency. EEC governments, he suggested, were not yet ready for the "wide-ranging sacrifice of sovereignty this would entail". But he argues that a "closer integration of currencies" – including sterling – is necessary for a fully-integrated market of goods, services and capital.

Officials in Brussels point out that the liberalization of capital movements across frontiers *is* part of 1992. If money moves freely across frontiers, and high street banks can open branches anywhere in the EEC, can sterling remain outside the EMS?

Mrs Thatcher's answer, it seems, is yes it can. But the Germans point to the way sterling, in practice, is already aligned with the Deutschmark. Mr Lawson made much the same point in Brussels in February when he admitted for the first time that the pound was being kept in line with the EMS in general and the D-Mark in particular, a point he is expected to repeat this week to the Treasury Select Committee. Treasury officials are keeping a close watch on the Franco-German Finance Council, which was set up this month and is further consolidating Franco-German control of European monetary affairs.

There are differences between Paris and Bonn over how the EMS should be strengthened, and whether participating countries should contribute more to the common reserve. But the argument is being thrashed out inside a key organization to *which Britain has* by its own choosing no access.

One likely result, officials in Brussels maintain, is that despite Lord Young's campaign to ensure that British business is prepared for 1992, British trade in Europe will suffer because of sterling being out in the cold. Another is that the Deutschmark, already the dominant currency in Europe, will in time come to serve as the *de facto* common European currency, at least until the Ecu gets off the ground.

It remains to be seen whether this prospect will overcome Mrs Thatcher's apparent fear that joining the EMS would be one more nail in the coffin of British national sovereignty.

T.E. Utley

Morality overcome by fumes

I somehow do not think that the latest blow struck in the official crusade against smoking is a particularly formidable one. It is contained in the *Fourth Report of the Independent Scientific Committee on Smoking and Health* published last week – a document of 68 pages including appendices, most of which is largely unintelligible to the average layman.

Nevertheless, relative lucidity and simple honesty are allowed to break through from time to time. The most sustained such interruption is provided by the following passage, for the length *of which I apologize:*

"In our Third Report we concluded that the reported association between passive smoking and lung cancer was speculative. Since then a number of new studies have been reported. The majority of reports conclude that passive smoking is associated with an increased risk of lung cancer in non-smokers. A minority conclude from their own data that any effect of passive smoking on the risk of lung cancer or other smoking-related disease in a non-smoker is negligible and that the increased risk noted in other studies is largely an artefact.

"The published studies have been scrutinized by various groups of researchers to determine whether collectively they present a reasonably consistent picture from which the existence and magnitude of the relative risk might be assessed. The major problem is the extent to which individuals with lung cancer were misclassified as non-smokers when they were in fact smokers or ex-smokers. After making allowances for such misclassifications, and other artefacts, and then recalculating relative risks in each study, most of the scientific groups conclude that while none of the studies can on its own be accepted as unequivocal the findings overall are consistent with there being a small increase in the risk of lung cancer from exposure to environmental tobacco smoke, in the range 10 to 30 per cent, though some other workers have however argued for a much lower relative risk, or no increased risk at all. The Committee, studying the same data, agrees with the former interpretation and so upholds the view expressed in its interim statement."

Now, as a layman, I would freely translate these conclusions as follows: "We (your committee) are in the noble business of putting down smoking. We have done pretty well in establishing the case that smokers expose themselves to a substantial risk of lung cancer; but we are still up against this *obstinate British libertarianism* which argues (quite fraudulently) that this is their own business. If we could only establish that by smoking they are not only killing themselves, but killing their families and their colleagues, we should have scored a real bulls eye.

"Well, in our last report we took the first step by saying that the connection between passive smoking and lung cancer was speculative and to be considered. We hoped like mad that subsequent research would confirm this beyond dispute. Subsequent research has not really done so. A majority of reports suggests that there may be a connection, a minority of reports suggests that there is not. None of these reports is thoroughly reliable, but somehow taken together a roughly reliable conclusion can be inferred from them. Anyway, this is what we are jolly well going to do – not, of course, by fudging the evidence (for we are all honourable men) but by exhaustively stating it in sufficiently obscure language and then supplying its deficiencies by a dogmatic assertion of our collective, highly expert opinion."

There are other difficulties that this report presents to the lay mind. This 10 to 30 per cent increase in a passive smoker's chance of lung cancer makes good headline stuff; but in practice (if I have got it right) what it means is that if I were a non-smoker who kept company exclusively with equally salubrious and upright people, my chances at getting lung cancer would stand at 10 to 100,000; if I consorted with smokers, however, my chances might go up to 11 or even 13 – and even that is all very "iffy".

Again, would I not have to expose myself night and day in a confined and ill-ventilated space for several weeks to the fumes of iniquity before I had consumed the equivalent of one cigarette? And is it really true that this danger (from one of the many pollutants in an average office or house) could in no way be reduced by better ventilation?

Perhaps there are answers to these questions; if so, ignorant as I am, I would like to have them politely and lucidly stated. I recall, in this connection, a charming if rather unscientific remark made by Lord Hartwell early in the smoking controversy: "They say they have tried it on rats; but they give these rats six or seven cigarettes at a time; who has ever seen a human being smoking six or seven cigarettes simultaneously?" I do not cite this as evidence, but merely as an example of the kind of scepticism felt by simple lay people about expert conclusions announced too obscurely and arrogantly.

Now, there are serious questions of manners and morals involved in this dispute. I think smokers have a lot to answer for. Their manners were brutalized under the pressures of the last war, when we all began smoking between courses with little regard to the taste or comfort of our companions. In pre-war days there were conventions about smoking, such as that gentlemen should wait until the ladies had withdrawn before settling down to their cigars. This was a practice to be defended on general social grounds, and one which is still observed in respectable households.

But now the tables have been turned. The smoking population, however civil and considerate they may be to others, is exposed to a brutal and gratuitous persecution. Only the other day, a friend of mine in the tobacco industry was addressed thus by a medical apparatchik: "You will go to your grave *knowing that you have killed* thousands of people; I will go to mine knowing that I have saved thousands of people." This was insolent and, since it referred to "knowing" and thereby implied deliberate homicidal intention, false.

Few human temptations are stronger than the wish to interfere with other people's lives in the name of morality. I remember years ago visiting a friend in hospital. Of course, I refrained from smoking at her bedside, until, with immense relief, I observed she was herself lighting a series of cigarettes in rapid succession. I took my packet out, but she immediately asked me not to smoke on the ground that though she could still do it without ill effect she suffered from the fumes exhaled by her visitors. Perhaps there is a scientific explanation for this, perhaps we should all smoke as long as we are careful not to inhale other people's fumes.

This plainly unfinished debate should be carried on courteously and freely, no sort of pressure should be put on the medical profession to reach a consensus, and no offical imprimatur should be given to its current dicey conclusions. The other night I heard Mrs Currie on the television; she was surprisingly moderate; her voice had an unusual quality in it – that, I thought, of a member of the Government who has been "spoken to". I hope she has.

Commentary • TONY BLAIR

Trial by water rate

The latest figures from the Water Authorities Association show a massive increase in the number of water disconnections for non-payment of bills: up from 2,000 three years ago to more than 7,000. This excludes the disconnections made by the statutory water companies, who account for a quarter of all consumers. So the true total may now be nearer 10,000 each year.

Yet after the social security changes in April, these figures will rise dramatically. So much so that the National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux (Nacab) fears it is soon to be inundated with families facing prolonged periods without water or sanitation. That anxiety is shared by the water authorities, which are only now beginning to come to terms with the full impact of the changes.

At the moment, the owner-occupier pays rates directly to the water authority. The private *tenant pays the landlord or the* authority. The council tenant will usually have the water rates included in the rent paid to the council which, in turn, will be responsible for passing on the water rates of all tenants. Disputes, therefore, do not normally arise between council tenants *and the water authority* because the council is liable and must secure payment from its tenants.

Other than exceptionally, non-payment of bills is due to financial difficulties – unemployment, marital break-up, or simply poverty. Those on supplementary benefit are most *likely to be* unable to pay, since their household budgets are least able to cope with unexpected expenditures or shortfalls.

But at present a sum representing their water rates is included in their benefit. In respect of council tenants receiving benefit, money for the water rates will be sent to councils directly from the DHSS. Thus councils can pay the water authorities knowing that they will be reimbursed.

Further protection is contained in the water industry's code of practice for domestic consumers. This provides that the water of those receiving benefit will not be cut off until their circumstances have been examined. But it specifically warns that if social security cannot help, then the supply may be cut off.

Water authorities are already becoming much tougher with those in arrears – hence the huge increase in the numbers disconnected. Nacab has even come across one water board that encloses an advertisement for a money-lending service with bills sent to customers who have been falling behind with payments.

From April, when income support replaces supplementary benefit, *no* special sum will be payable in respect of water rates. Owner-occupiers or tenants liable for water rates will have to find the money out of whatever global sum they receive from the DHSS. If they cannot do so, they may be disconnected.

The circumstances of council tenants, however, will be even more radically altered. Since no supplementary benefit will be claimable for water rates, the DHSS will no longer reimburse the local authority for water rates, which will be added to tenants' rents. Worse, the large number of tenants receiving supplementary benefit who have their rent and rates paid through housing benefit will start receiving bills from the council for the first time. They will often be pensioners, some of whom won't have paid rent or rates for years, and who will be confused and worried about the new system.

At first blush, this appears merely to give the council a headache. But by law local authorities can opt out of collecting the water rates from their tenants and oblige them to pay directly. In practice, due to the reimbursement procedure, very few do. But now there is substantial risk that more councils, especially those already squeezed by central government's financial controls, will dump the problem of collecting rates from the poor on to the rating authority.

If they do so, the tenants will become directly liable and, on non-payment, face disconnection. Already two councils in the North-west, covering 15,000 tenants, have decided to end their role as collectors when the social security changes take effect.

The Government appears unconcerned. But then, for them, this is all satisfactory. It is part of weaning the benefit claimants off "the dependency culture". This theory of pseudo-sociology has it that the real problem of the poor is that they have lost the motivation that springs from self-reliance. In other words, stripped of pretention: "It's their own fault."

This is the true thinking behind many of the changes in social security. It is not a very radical idea; it's just so reactionary that very few are now alive who remember it of old. Do we really need young children going without water or sanitation to discover that Thatcherism is old-fashioned after all?

The author is Labour MP for Sedgefield

SCIENCE REPORT

Forest murmurs

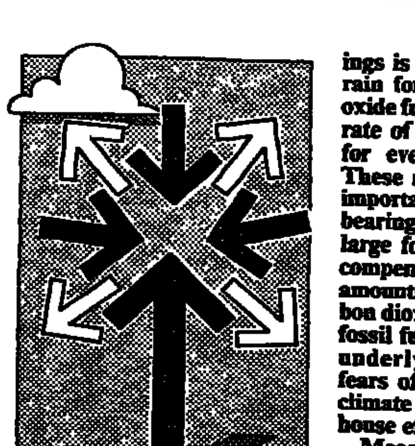
The extent of rain forest interaction with the low atmosphere of the Earth is now being uncovered. In a study sponsored by the US and Brazilian space research organizations, the Amazon Basin has been *found to* be a prolific source of the hydrocarbon isoprene, which in combination with other chemicals may affect ozone levels.

The discovery that, after methane, isoprene (one of the raw materials of synthetic rubber) is the most abundant hydrocarbon given off by rain forests is not especially surprising, but its scale is. Two of the investigators, R.A. Rasmussen and M.A.K. Khalil from the Oregon Graduate Centre, estimate that the Amazon Basin may produce as much as 60 million tonnes of the hydrocarbon each year.

Another research group, *from the National Centre for* Atmospheric Research at Boulder, Colorado, confirms the scale of the emission, estimating that it amounts to between 2 and 3 per cent of the Amazon Basin's total primary production (the amount of carbon, as carbon dioxide, *converted by sunlight into* carbon-based chemicals).

The importance of this discovery rests on the effectiveness with which isoprene can disrupt the normal chemical chemistry of water molecules, and the fragments produced from them, in a *strongly sunlit* atmosphere such as that over the Amazon.

Some of the investigators suggest that, with the nitric



John Lawson

oxide also copiously produced by the Amazon forests, the isoprene may have the effect of increasing amounts of ozone in the low atmosphere, increasing the chance of photochemical smog. Elsewhere, in West Germany *for example,* low-level ozone has been suggested as a cause of damage to growing trees.

Although the research was carried out in the 1985 dry season (July and August), the first full scientific account has only now appeared in the *Journal of Geophysical Research*. The long-term objective of the study, called the Amazon Boundary Layer Experiment or ABLE 2A, is to understand the influence of rain forests on the Earth's climate, taking advantage of sensitive methods now avail*able for* the measurement of gases present in the atmosphere in tiny amounts.

Another of the study's findings is that some parts of the rain forest extract carbon dioxide from the atmosphere at a rate of 33 kilograms an hour for every hectare of forest. These measurements have an importance because of their bearing on the degree to which large forest areas may partly compensate for the increased amounts of atmospheric carbon dioxide caused by burning fossil fuel. This is the process underlying contemporary fears of change in the global climate known as the greenhouse effect.

Measurements by a research group from Harvard University have shown that, like all growing plants, the Amazonian rain forests give off carbon dioxide at night, but take it in during the day. The rate of extraction of carbon dioxide at midday was found to be four times the average rate during sunlit hours.

One surprising result of the measurements now reported is the quite substantial, and steady output of carbon dioxide from the soil in which the forests grow, amounting to more than 6 kilograms of carbon dioxide an hour from every hectare.

The measurements now reported are plainly an insufficient basis for a definitive estimate of the role of the Amazon in the world's carbon dioxide cycle. But further refinement may come from a follow-up study, called ABLE 2B, which took place *last* year during the wet season in Amazonia.

JOHN MADDOX

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THE TIMES

1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

ANGELS AND DEVILS

No one asked to identify the senior Conservatives closest to Mrs Thatcher in essentials of policy could avoid the names of Mr Norman Tebbit, Mr Nigel Lawson, and Lord Young. No one asked to recollect the three most painful, public rows of the past two years could avoid those same names.

To fall out with Mr Tebbit amid the rivalries that prevailed after the Westland affair was understandable. To fall out with Lord Young after the tensions of the election campaign was *forgiveable*. However, to fall out with the most successful Chancellor in living memory – and on the eve of his most radical and creative Budget – seemed careless, even cavalier.

This row between Downing Street neighbours will be brought up again when the Chancellor of the Exchequer discusses exchange rate policy with the Treasury Select Committee tomorrow. But, as has been noted by the Government's opponents and friends alike, the confrontation is only to a tiny extent about the *merits* of the European Monetary System. When the Chancellor tiptoes too closely to a policy of which the Prime Minister has a deep emotional objection and is roundly rebuked for his pains; when Lord Young supports Mrs Thatcher, Sir Geoffrey Howe supports Mr Lawson, and lesser men leak this way and that; then it is political succession, not economic success, which hangs in the air.

So can one blame those in the popular press who suggest that the "knives are out for Maggie", that Mr Tebbit and Mr Lawson are "ganging up" on their erstwhile protector, that the "windows of Downing Street have misted over and Mrs Thatcher is unable to see further than the front door"? Something is up. When senior politicians in private speak of little but the next Prime Minister, they can hardly be surprised when journalists try to follow their cue.

But what is the cue to be followed? Mr Lawson and Mr Tebbit have long worked together. They were a formidable double act during the parliamentary destruction of the Wilson premiership. They entered the Cabinet on the same day. They have different skills but similar outlooks. Each is known greatly to admire the other. Mr Tebbit is particularly known to admire Mr Lawson, not least because of his much reduced admiration for so many of his other erstwhile Cabinet colleagues.

Does that mean, however, that they are "ganging up" on the Prime Minister? Hardly. If the evidence is slight, the likelihood is slighter still. The relationship between the two may be a factor in any future contest to succeed *Mrs Thatcher*. That does not mean that their combined strength is now ready to be deployed against her.

The last time at which ministers could seriously be said to be "ganging up" to remove the Prime Minister was in the spring of 1986. Two ministers (Mr Heseltine and Mr Brittan) had resigned, a third (Mr Biffen) had called for "a balanced ticket", and it might have needed only a concerted shove from a disaffected Mr Tebbit or an unhappy Sir Geoffrey Howe to force her out. Since then, there has been no prospect of that. There has been only talk – which, as is the way in the Tory party, only occasionally turns up in print and, even then, falls quickly back amid denials and (in Mr Tebbit's case) derision.

For the Government's enemies it is frustrating. For those of them with any real understanding of Tory affairs, the fact that Mrs Thatcher is falling out with her closest ideological supporters is no cause to rejoice. The year is not 1981, when true divisions scarred the Tory ranks and Mrs Thatcher had to fight and win against the relics of the Heath administration. It is 1988 when what passes for political dissent is an argument about the mechanics of sound economic management.

Yet the disturbances of the past two weeks are not entirely without meaning for the immediate governance of Britain. Mrs Thatcher's top ministers are tolerant men; they have needed to be. They recognize the vast personal contribution which the Prime Minister still makes. They are happy to joke that Mrs Thatcher would like to fill all the Cabinet jobs herself. But they are rightly unhappy if she takes the joke too seriously.

Mr Lawson, Mr Tebbit and Lord Young are in every truly important respect at one with the Prime Minister and the best interests of Britain. Trying seriously to prise them apart is as counting angels on the pinhead of Thatcherism. They may not always behave with the obedience she would like. But she should consider how much better are the angels she knows to all the devils she does not.

THE JACKSON VOTE

The first thing to be borne in mind about the contest which the Rev Jesse Jackson has won in Michigan is that it was not a primary like any other. Voting in most of the *state* was in caucuses. Mr Jackson won handsomely, but within a turnout of fewer than 200,000 people in an electorate of 5.8 million; more a small soil erosion than a landlside.

The second thing to be borne in mind is that, for the time being, the above crucial distinction will make no difference to the Democratic Party's panic-stricken elders – its state governors, congressmen and officials. Under the simplifying influence of television, all stages of the presidential nominating process – primaries and caucuses – are now reported as if they are of equal importance. Victory among a few voters is depicted as if it were as significant as victory among many.

Doubt is now cast on the abilities, as vote winner, of Governor Dukakis, of Massachusetts – a previous victor. Yesterday, the unofficial word from Governor Mario Cuomo – made known in such a way as to be easily deniable – was that the Governor of New York had changed his mind, for the time being, about endorsing the Governor of Massachusetts. Endorsing Mr Dukakis had been something Mr Cuomo, again unofficially, had been toying with ever since an opinion poll last week showed that Mr Dukakis was the only *Democrat who could beat Vice-President Bush* in November.

At this point, it is customary for foreigners to say it is a crazy way of choosing a president – and for quite a few Americans to agree. But perhaps the craziness lies in the way so many people react to the choosing of a president – to the admittedly long, but exhaustive, system by which many voters, and methods of voting, are given their say.

Mr Jackson had a big win in Michigan because *the caucus system* favours people who have a greater degree of commitment to a candidate than has the average voter. That is, people who are prepared to go out to vote at a meeting: the caucus. A primary is no different from a general election in that the polling stations are open all day. In any *healthy* society, people prepared to go to political meetings are far smaller than those prepared to go briefly into a polling both.

Fifty per cent of Mr Jackson's vote came from two black areas in one of which, Dearborn, there is also the only sizable Arab vote in the United States – which naturally voted for Mr Jackson, the embracer both of Mr Arafat's policies and his person. Mr Jackson is thought *to have been supported by between 15 to 20* per cent of whites who voted.

No one believes that Mr Jackson will win the nomination, but there is an outside chance that he will arrive at the convention with more delegates than Mr Dukakis. The party elders will try to deny him the nomination, just as it will try to deny him much influence on the party programme – or choice of Vice-Presidential candidate – even if he arrives at the convention second in delegates to Mr Dukakis.

Is that because he is black? Certainly, that is one of the reasons why some people will be against him, and it would be humbug to deny it. Bigotry cannot be banished from any society, including a society run by Mr Jackson's nastier supporters and associates. But he has made of his blackness a policy. He has sided with various charismatic despots such as President Castro and Mr Arafat – in blaming the Third World's ills on American capitalism and imperialism. He implies that the ills of American blacks have the same cause.

Mr Jackson is not unelectable because blacks vote for him. Since he is the first black presidential candidiate in a major party, that is *understandable*. He is *unelectable* because of the kind of whites who vote for him. The entrails from Michigan show him with disproportionate support from the sort of voters – such as those in the state's numerous university towns – who were for Mr McGovern in 1972. He was unelectable, and white.

Sooner or later, a black presidential candidate will emerge in the United States who will campaign, not as a black – emphasizing *links with races and idealogues abroad* who have nothing in common with American blacks either in outlook or standard of living – but as a traditional Democrat or Republic, just as Mr Edward Brook, of Massachusetts became the first black senator since Reconstruction. (He was a Republican.) This is also how the first woman president will emerge. She will be a Republican or a Democrat first and a woman second – just as Disraeli became the first Jewish Prime Minister, and Mrs Thatcher the first woman Prime Minister, for reasons other than their gender.

Ancient heritage

From Mr Harold Fassnidge

Sir, Lady Bowyer-Smyth's *cri de coeur* about the plight of Fordwich (March 10) is heard with sympathy here in Bradford on Avon. But at least Fordwich does not have, as we have, two major routes (A363 and B3109) passing through the very town centre.

In this small town of narrow, winding streets created by Saxon oxcarts we have a constant stream of vehicles of weights up to 38 tons and, because it is believed to be *the only safe river crossing* in the area, on over the 13th-century town bridge.

We are told by the county highway authority that a by pass road is planned, but that, as they are starved of funds by *central* government, it is unlikely to be built for a very long time.

Unless Government policy is changed radically ancient historic towns like Bradford on Avon are doomed as places to live and shop – or even visit in safety.

Yours faithfully,
HAROLD FASSNIDGE,
8 St Margaret's Hill,
Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire
March 10.

Slightly confused

From Mr A. P. S. de Redman

Sir, Mr A. J. Maddock (March 21) escaped quite lightly.

I was, on one memorable occasion, designated Project Amorist. Not as bad as it might have been but several of my staff looked at me with new respect.

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN de REDMAN
(Project Armorist, Birmingham Heraldry Project),
Room B1, Adderley Block,
St Peter's College,
Saltley,
Birmingham, West Midlands.
March 21.

Perilous parking

From Mrs Sydney Lipworth

Sir, To pay £2 an hour for parking in the centre of London (report, March 22) does not seem outrageous and is very much in line with private garages' charges. But it should be pointed out that many residents' parking areas are empty during the day and that too few parking meters are provided for visitors.

My car was clamped, although it was the only car parked on a long stretch of an empty residents' parking area. I had looked, in vain, *for a free parking meter* for nearly an hour.

The anomaly is that these residents' parking areas which are often empty during the day, and not available to visitors, are free *for all after 6.30 p.m.*

Yours faithfully,
R. LIPWORTH,
The Gables,
115 Hamilton Terrace, NW8.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ending the long Iranian agony

From Miss M. Farangis

Sir, As an Iranian who, before leaving Tehran 10 days ago, had shared the anguish and fear of the Iranian people under missile attacks and aerial bombardments, I was quite distressed to read "Steps to end war of the cities" (letter, March 17).

This group ("Friends of Iran") allows itself to speak on behalf of the people of a country in which death and destruction in street corners is a daily routine and the people, like walking corpses under constant threat of missiles and bombs, spend all their time in long queues to obtain food and other necessities. These people have neither time nor patience to wait some more years for a modified version of the Security Council resolution 598 (as the passage of 598 itself came after seven years of *death and destruction*).

My compatriots inside Iran do not enjoy the luxury of living safely, unlike those who are living outside. Their only desire is an immediate end to the war, which is costing them the life of their loved ones.

Credible opposition leaders and opinion-makers who have mass support among Iranian people, such as Shapour Bakhtiar, are all in agreement with resolution 598, not because it is the best and most just way to end the war (as the question of Iraq's responsibility in attacking Iran should also be considered after the cease-fire), but because it is, at this time, the quickest *option* available to end this madness.

These leaders, after careful consideration of the well-being of their people and the humanitarian, economic and legal aspects of 598 and daily results of the continuation of the war, have concluded that an immediate end to the hostilities and bloodshed is much more important than other minor considerations, such as seeking publicity.

In the past few weeks we have witnessed the result of opposing resolution 598. If minorities such as "Friends of Iran" were real friends of Iran, they would have voiced their support for the pos*ition presented* by democratic leaders and have pressured the United Nations to force the Islamic Republic to accept the cease-fire and also impose an arms embargo on both belligerents. Then it was a strong possibility that the carnage of the past few weeks would have never taken place.

In our hearts we fear that, for reasons of domestic survival and exportation of ideas, there can be *no end to Khomeini's expansion*, even if resolution 598 is modified and all the conditions are met.

Insistence on passage of a new resolution in order to punish Iraq will in effect punish innocent Iranians, as it delays the United Nations' peace process and in the long term might result in the usage of chemical weapons in the "war of the cities".

Yours faithfully,
M. FARANGIS,
c/o 155 Battersea Rise, SW11.
March 24.

Jobs for women

From Miss S. C. Newton

Sir, Lady Plowden (March 18) questions the ability of the Manpower Services Commission's forthcoming adult training programme to meet the needs of women returning to the employment market.

The White Paper, *Training for* Employment, in no way implied that women had "special defects"; rather it takes particular account of individuals and groups who can be at a disadvantage in finding and benefiting from suitable training. and jobs. Women might, for example, have suffered discrimination or a restriction of opportunities in their past employment. They may lack confidence to reenter the labour market after an absence to start a family and/or may require special encouragement to take up high-tech occupations.

Women who have been registered as unemployed for six *months or more will be fully* eligible for the new programme. In addition the White Paper gives the assurance that provision for women returning to the labour force will be at least maintained; it is notable that women in this group will not be required to satisfy the six-month unemployment rule.

Additionally, whilst the rules governing entry to the new programme have yet to be finalised, it is likely that women who are lone parents with school-age children receiving income support on a DHSS book for six months or more will also be able to gain entry to the programme.

The question of suitable child care arrangements is obviously much wider than the new training programme. However, help will be available for sole parents, male or female, to help with the costs of care for children over school age. People who are not otherwise eligible may be admitted to the programme if they have been in receipt of DHSS benefits for six months, but not necessarily registered unemployed.

I hope this clarification helps to reassure Lady Plowden and others involved in promoting training for women.

Yours faithfully,
SANDRA NEWTON,
Directorate of Adult Training,
Manpower Services Commission,
Moorfoot,
Sheffield, South Yorkshire.

German elections

From Dr Herbert Pilch

Sir, While I agree with your analysis (report, March 22) of the "Späth factor" in the state elections of Baden-Württemberg, I am concerned at your summary description of the protest vote as "ultra-right extremist".

I had the honour to lead, in the *election*, the Democratic Ecology Party, which polled an overall total of 1.5 per cent. I personally won 4 per cent in my constituency. This has nothing to do with right-left extremism.

The issue on which we have been campaigning was the destruction of our natural environment, including our fellow creatures and even unborn babies. We are thereby, ultimately, destroying ourselves. Chernobyl was a writing on *the* wall.

Our 900 members and sympathizers have been conducting a devoted, self-financed campaign against heavy odds. One of our most serious obstacles was the near-total silence imposed upon us by the media (including your distinguished paper). Given these conditions, we have scored fairly well.

I am sure you will sympathize, dear Sir, with my disappointment at being lumped into a single bag with right-wing extremists.

Yours faithfully,
HERBERT PILCH,
D-7801 Stegen-Wittental,
im Bachmättle 4,
West *Germany*.
March 22.

Too little, too late?

From Mr John Studd

Sir, The death of Patrick Steptoe, a most outstanding medical scientist (Obituary, March 23) prompts a question concerning the selection for this country's formal honours. Probably nobody this century has changed the practice of gynaecology so fundamentally. Apart from the pioneering work on *in-vitro* fertilisation he also established laparoscopy as a routine clinical investigation. This was not achieved through major universities or teaching hospitals but from a small district general hospital in Oldham.

His other contribution of demonstrating that excellent original research could be carried out within the private sector is an *achievement which should be in* tune with the philosophies of this Government. It is sad that a belated and woefully inadequate honour was awarded only during his terminal illness.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN STUDD,
King's College Hospital,
Denmark Hill, SE25.
March 22.

Showpiece hospital

From the Chairman of the Paddington and North Kensington Health Authority

Sir, Contrary to the impression given by your headline of March 19, none of the new wards at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, face closure. The new wing is not yet fully in use, but 90 per cent of the facilities are already open and 95 per cent will be within a few weeks.

It is important to point out that the new wing is not an extra facility added to the hospital's bed stock. It is a replacement block, and its beds and operating theatres will be taking over from the Victorian wards and theatres in the main building.

These old facilities are only still in use at the moment because we are awaiting £500,000 worth of surgical equipment to be delivered for the new theatre suite. We are using, and will continue to use, ward accommodation in the new wing for medical patients while we carry out work on the original Praed Street building.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL HATFIELD,
Chairman,
Paddington and North Kensington Health Authority,
60 South Wharf Road, W2.

Galloping Gatwick

From Mr D. E. L. Parsons

Sir, A little after your correspondent Lady Longley's time (March 22), in the early 1950s the Surrey Union Foxhounds were cub-hunting gorse coverts towards what is now the east end of the present runway at Gatwick.

The noise of an aircraft was heard, but nothing was seen as it came from the direction of the rising sun. Suddenly it was upon us, about to land on the chain-link runway, and several of us had to use heels on our horses to avoid being run into.

Yours faithfully,
DERRICK PARSONS,
Chappell House,
East Chiltington,
Lewes, Sussex.
March 24.

Verb. sap.

From Mr Maurice Halperin

Sir, Philip Howard's "word-watching" must cause concern to Robert Robinson and the *My Word* production team as he rapidly exhausts the stock of little known words.

What concerns me is not that I rarely know the words in question but sometimes do not even know those he offers as possible definitions.

Yours sincerely,
MAURICE HALPERIN,
83 Nottingham Terrace, NW1.
March 25.

Case for a thriving forest industry

From Lieutenant-Commander G. G. Marten

Sir, The new arrangements for *supporting* forestry have been acclaimed by conservationists. I hope this will lead to a better understanding amongst the general public of the value to the nation of a thriving forest industry based on a steadily expanding *conifer acreage*.

Perhaps the greatest constraint on our future prosperity is going to come from an adverse balance of payments. Imports of wood and wood products cost us over £5,000 million annually.

Since 1919, and more particularly since 1945, we have been building up our commercial forests and now, as they mature, we are starting to reap a much-needed economic benefit.

New industries using home-grown timber are replacing imports. The saving to our balance of payments is already great and growing every year. If the impetus *to commercial planting is lost* much potential prosperity for the British people will have been allowed to dribble away into the sand.

Continued investment from outside the land-owning community is *likely* to be a vital component of further expansion. We may see those much reviled high earners who have remained in this country and put their money into forestry superseded by foreigners.

Abroad the benefits that accrue from a stake in a great forest industry are better understood, and the new grants may look attractive.

Every government since 1945 has supported forestry expansion. The present target is 80,000 acres per annum. As this far-seeing attitude bears fruit it is time for a wider appreciation of the prosperity it is helping to bring to us all.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE MARTEN,
Crichel,
Wimborne, Dorset.
March 23.

Televising Commons

From Mr Dafydd Wigley, MP for Caernarfon (Plaid Cymru)

Sir, On Tuesday evening (March 29) the Commons will be asked to set up a select committee to facilitate the introduction of television to the Commons Chamber.

However, contrary to assurances given when the House decided on the principle of allowing in the cameras the Government are now not going to ensure that all the party groupings in the House will be properly represented on that select committee.

A committee of 21 members is being proposed and Ulster Unionist MPs, together with those from Plaid Cymru and the SNP, told to "toss a coin" to choose a representative. If the committee were only enlarged to 22 members, with three places for the smaller parties, the whole issue could be resolved.

Television could bring a new refreshing dimension to the Commons and open a new era in its work.

The proposed composition of the select committee, however, bodes ill for the whole experiment, for those in power appear unable to keep their word in ensuring fair play for the smaller parties in the procedures associated with introducing television.

Or is it that certain influential people, opposed to televising the Chamber, are using the frustration of the smaller parties as a back-door method of trying to kill the decision to televise the House?

Yours etc,
DAFYDD WIGLEY,
House of Commons.
March 25.

Budget and conscience

From Lord Boyd-Carpenter

Sir, Mr Sydney Shenton (March 22) exemplifies the simplistic approach to questions of public finance which treats all earnings and income as being at the disposal of the State, to be shared out as the State thinks fit and in accordance with its ideas of "morality".

He never appears to indicate that the question whether it is "moral" to confiscate three fifths of part of someone's earnings is even worth consideration. But what is even more important is the inevitably damaging result of trying to run the economy in accordance with his concepts of "morality"; 1977 is only the most recent example.

For experience *shows that high* rates of personal taxation discourage and low rates encourage economic growth. During the 1950s and 1960s reducing rates of tax not only produced a growth in tax revenue, but a growth in the economy.

The same process can be seen today under Mr Lawson's stewardship. And it is, of course, only out of this increase in wealth-creation that resources can be found for *the social* improvements we all want to see.

Moreover such cuts in taxation help to prevent high earners and rich rentiers moving abroad, e.g., to the USA, with its much lower taxes on income, or to the Channel Islands.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
BOYD-CARPENTER
House of Lords,

Mark of distinction

From Mrs Jean Ingham

Sir, It is interesting to read of the "remarkable events" which have befallen Mr Bevin (March 16) since his purchase of a bowler hat.

In my capacity as an official tourist guide, conducting groups of people from all over the world round the colleges of this beautiful university city, I am constantly stopped by my guests, who wish to enquire about, photograph, be photographed with and even hold conversations with the college porters going about their daily duties, formally attired in well-tailored coats and bowler hats.

The hats are a cause of wonder, admiration, curiosity and even amazement. One member of a French group asked if the wearer was indeed "a real English lord" and was incredulous when told that the wearer was a porter, a person held in great respect by us guides, and who helped the colleges control the several millions of foreign visitors who visit them each year.

Yours sincerely,
JEAN INGHAM,
18 Glebe Road,
Cambridge.
March 17.

ON THIS DAY

MARCH 29 1939

Although, according to our Paris Correspondent, writing in 1939, the Eiffel Tower was originally given a life of 20 years, it still stands, a metal monarch of all it surveys. Next year it will become a centenarian

EIFFEL TOWER'S 50TH BIRTHDAY

VERLAINE'S "INVERTED TORCH-HOLDER"

From Our Paris Correspondent

The fiftieth anniversary of the Eiffel Tower will be celebrated in Paris today with all the ceremony due to what has long since become an essential part of the Parisian landscape.

It has had many critics in its time. Verlaine contemptuously dismissed it as "an inverted torch-holder," and even before it was built, a group including such personalities as Meissonier, Brunod, Victorien Sardou, Alexandre Dumas, and Guy de Maupassant published, after seeing the plans, a violent protest against what they described as "a dishonour to Paris and a ridiculous dizzy tower dominating Paris like some gigantic and sombre factory chimney." And for some years after its construction the Tower remained a constant subject of controversy. *But today even those who are not* ready to accept its artistic merits would be loth to say the word which would reduce the lofty fabric to scrap iron.

The Tower was built to form the "clou" of the 1889 Exhibition by Jean Eiffel after he had been approached by a young engineer named Koechlin, who is still living, with detailed proposals for its construction. As a feat of engineering it loses nothing by comparison with modern standards, and considered from the aspect of the technique of its time it deserves to rank as a really remarkable achievement...

WIRELESS AND TELEVISION

It would be an error to suppose that the Eiffel Tower merely provides an unrivalled view of Paris and the surrounding country. For many years there has been a meteorological station at the very summit, and since the introduction of wireless telegraphy advantage has been taken ot its great height to instal a powerful transmitter. Lately, too, a television station has been included, though it is not in regular operation, and since the range of television reception seems largely to be governed by the distance of the transmitter above the ground, this station should give extremely good results.

Nor have its advertising possibilities been entirely neglected. The late M. Citroën, of motor-car fame, held the publicity rights for some years, and rigged up an imposing system of electric lights by which flames seemed to creep up from the base of the tower to its very summit. He varied this later by a gigantic clock-dial of electric bulbs and a huge thermometer. The contract came to an end, however, and for some time the Tower was left in peace. During the last Paris Exhibition its three platforms were used for a series of remarkable firework displays which could be seen for many miles around, while enormous loud-speakers discoursed stentorian music which, on the whole ,was less ear-rending than might have been imagined.

Its great height has inevitably attracted some suicides, though the number has been relatively low...

It is true that the original life of the Tower was set at 20 years, but it has had successive reprieves, and thanks to periodical repainting seems to have suffered no damage from its long exposure to the elements. Indeed, there is no reason to doubt that the beloved "inverted torch-holder" will go on mocking the ghost of Verlaine for many years to come.

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

March 28: The Duchess of York this morning opened the London International Book Fair at Olympia.

Miss Helen Hughes was in attendance.

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Mr Michael Haslam Mills will be held at All Souls, Langham Place, London, W1, on Wednesday, April 13, at 12.15 pm.

Sandringham charge

The Queen is increasing the price of admission to Sandringham House and its 90 acres of grounds by 20p to £2.00 for this year's six month summer season, starting on April 3. Up to 200,000 people a year visit the Jacobean style house.

Prince's gift

The Prince of Wales has given a £1,000 Royal Doulton presentation plate to help to raise £11,000 to replace the sails on the windmill at Cley-next-the-Sea, Norfolk.

Memorial service

Sir Rex Cohen

A memorial service for Sir Rex Cohen was held yesterday in the West London Synagogue. Rabbi Hugo Gryn officiated. Miss Samantha Stuart-Hunt, granddaughter, read from the works of Canon Henry Scott-Holland and Sir John Prideaux gave an address. Among others present were:

Lady Cohen (widow), Miss Melanie Stuart-Hunt (granddaughter), Mrs B H Pyfe-Jamieson and Mrs W Steel (sisters), Mrs Caroline Stuart-Hunt, Alistair Stuart-Hunt, Mr and Mrs Tony Villar, Commander and Mrs Miles Rivett-Carnac, Mr and Mrs Timothy Holland Bosworth, Mr Leslie Cohen, Mrs G Kirkpatrick, Mr and Mrs John Brunel-Cohen, Lady (Brunel) Cohen, Mr Christopher Eliot Cohen, Mrs M Simon.

The Earl of Woolton, Viscount Leverhulme, Lord and Lady Benson, Lord Manton, Lord Abinger, Lord Fairhaven (senior steward, Jockey Club), Lady Angela Oswald, the Hon Mrs Earl, the Hon Mrs R F Watson, the Hon Sir John Baring (chairman, Baring Brothers and Company) with Mr T G Abell (deputy chairman, Baring Investment Management), Lady Prideaux, Sir Peter Daniell, Colonel Sir Henry and Lady Clowes, Lady (Rodney) Moore, General Sir Geoffrey Musson (King's Shropshire Light Infantry).

Mrs Cyril Roberts, Mrs Gordon Adam, Dr C S Cane, Mr Malcolm Cooper, Mrs H J Lloyd-Johnes, Mrs Leopold Lonsdale, Mr H D Bailey, Major and Mrs N H Du Boulay, Mrs Louis Friedman, Mr Richard Brunner-Randall, Mr Doug Smith, Mr Kenneth Crabbe, Mrs J Wynne-Williams, Mrs Hugh Sassoon, Mr and Mrs R N Richmond-Watson, Mr and Mrs Brian Maynard, Mr Geoffrey G Young, Captain David Jacobs.

Mr Matthew Byam-Shaw, Miss C Byam-Shaw, Mr Clifford Jones, Mr W G Eborn (chairman, Cottage Homes), Mr Peter M Rainey (Alsop Stevens), Mr S C Mein (representing the chairman, Naafi), Mr A C Guthrie (president, also representing Old Rugbeian Society), Dr K Baker (Meat and Livestock Commission) and Mrs Beryl Pearce (representing Ruckmans Farm) with Mr David Cox (farm manager), Mr Jim Saunders (stud manager) and other members of staff.

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh will attend a luncheon and the twenty-first meeting of the Standing Council for Countryside Sports at the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, 12 Great George Street, SW1, at 12.45, on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the founding of the conference.

The Prince of Wales will visit The High Corn Mill redevelopment, Skipton, North Yorkshire, at 10.00; Skipton Castle at 10.35; the Craven Court retail development, High Street, Skipton, at 11.00; as Patron of the Civic Trust, will visit the retail and housing development in Victoria Square, Skipton, at 11.20; and will attend a luncheon at the Dales Enterprise Agency, Gargrave, at 11.50. Later he will view farming diversification and improvement projects at Heslaker Farm, Skipton, at 1.25; will visit Broughton Hall and view officer conversions from stable and farm buildings at 2.30; and, as Colonel-in-Chief of The Parachute Regiment, will visit the 4th (Volunteer) Battalion at the TA Centre, Thornbury Barracks, Pudsey, West Yorkshire, at 5.00.

The Princess of Wales will open the new terminal building at Humberside International Airport, Brigg, at 10.40; will launch the Brigg Regeneration Project at 11.10; will open the new factory extension of Falcon Cycles, Bridge Street, Brigg, at 11.35; and the King Edward Street New Enterprise Centre, Grimsby, at 1.35.

The Duchess of York will attend the "British Fashion Meets the City" fashion show and dinner at the Mansion House at 7.30 in aid of Action Research for the Crippled Child.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: John Tyler, 10th president of the USA 1841-45, Charles City County, Virginia, 1790; Sir Edwin Lutyens, architect, designer of the Cenotaph, London, 1869.

DEATHS: Thomas Corna, philanthropist, London, 1751; Emmanuel Swedenborg, scientist and philosopher, London 1772; Charles Wesley, hymn writer, London, 1788; Maria Fitzherbert, wife of George IV, Brighton, 1837; John Keble, theologian, Bournemouth, 1886; Georges Seurat, painter, Paris, 1891; Sir Charles Stanford, composer, London, 1924.

Captain Scott, storm bound in a tent near the South Pole, made the last entry in his diary, "...the end cannot be far...", 1912. The last American troops left Vietnam, 1973.

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"Her final days with you were among the happiest of her life. Your gentle skills convert the dismal business of dying into an art-form."
These poignant words from a bereaved husband are echoed again and again by grateful families.
They are quoted here in thanksgiving to you for the kind support on which our care depends.
Sister Superior.

Luncheons

Board of Deputies of British Jews

Mr Neil Kinnock, MP, was the guest of honour at a luncheon given yesterday at Woburn House by the Board of Deputies of British Jews. Dr Lionel Kopelowitz, president, and Mrs Kopelowitz, honorary officers, the secretary-general and Sir Sigmund Sternberg were the hosts. Among those present were:

The Ambassador of Israel, the Yugoslav Ambassador, the High Commissioner for Barbados, the High Commissioner for Jamaica, Lord Jakobovits, Lord Ardwick, Baroness Birk, Lord Bottomley, Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos, CH, Lady Cocks of Hartcliffe, Lady Janner, Lord Paget of Northampton, QC, Lord Willis, Lord Weidenfeld, Lord Ponsonby of Shulbrede, Mr Peter Shore, MP, Miss Diane Abbott, MP, Mr Jim Cousins, MP, Mr Tom Cox, MP, Mr Tam Dalyell, MP, Mrs Llin Golding, MP, Mr Ted Leadbitter, MP, Mr Jack Straw, MP, Mr Alan Tuffin, Mr Patrick Cosgrave, Mr Garfield Davies, Mr Gavin Laird and Mr Ian Mikardo.

British Council

Mr Richard Francis, Director-General of the British Council, was host at a luncheon held yesterday at 10 Spring Gardens in honour of Herr Klaus Hopcke, Deputy Minister for Culture of the German Democratic Republic. The Ambassador of the German Democratic Republic was among the guests.

Royal Over-Seas League

The High Commissioner for Mauritius and Mrs Soobiah were the guests of honour at a luncheon given by the Royal Over-Seas League at Over-Seas House, St James's, yesterday. Mr Manek Dalal, chairman, and members of the central council were the hosts.

Reception

Prime Minister

The Prime Minister and Mr Denis Thatcher were hosts at a reception held yesterday at 10 Downing Street in honour of the St John Ambulance Brigade Centenary Appeal.

Dinners

Cardiff Business Club

The Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan, Mrs Susan E. Williams, was present at a dinner given by the Cardiff Business Club at the Royal Hotel, Cardiff, last night when the guest speaker was Mr J. Graham Day, Chairman of the Rover Group plc. Mr Alan Rosser, Chief Executive of IMC Management Consultants Limited, presided.

Finance Houses Association

Mr Ray Hazlehurst, the Chairman of the Finance Houses Association, presided at the association's twenty-sixth annual dinner held at the Hotel Inter-Continental last night. The principal guest was the Secretary of State for Energy, Mr Cecil Parkinson. Mr Rowland Landman proposed a toast to the guests to which Baroness Phillips responded. Among those present were:

Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Sir George Blunden, the Hon Peter Brooke, MP, Mr John Browne, MP, Sir John Cassels, Sir Kenneth Clucas, Professor Roy Goode, Sir Peter Graham, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Lord Justice Mustill, Professor J.K. Macleod, Mrs Sally Oppenheim-Barnes, Sir Idwal Pugh and Mr Robin Squire, MP.

Lecture

Royal Society of Chemistry

The second Royal Society of Chemistry Public Lecture on Chemistry and Society was delivered yesterday evening at the Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, London, by Professor John M. Thomas, Director of the Royal Institution, who spoke on the topic "Catalysts: Ancient and Modern". Among those present were representatives of schools, universities, industry and government bodies. Professor Thomas was introduced by Professor Sir Jack Lewis, RSC president, who was host at a dinner after the lecture at the RSC headquarters in Burlington House, Piccadilly.

Cobham Hall

Cobham Hall Elders Association will be celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the school's opening at Elders' Day on April 23 at the school. Leaflets have been sent out to past pupils. Those who have not received the details can obtain them from Mrs Dorothy Fothergill at the school.

Appointments

Latest appointments include:

Miss R. A. Woodbridge, Deputy Headmistress of Croydon High School, to be Headmistress of Brighton and Hove High School next January, on the retirement of Mrs J. B. E. Wells.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr T.C. Bailey
and Miss L-J. Johnson

The engagement is announced between Timothy, younger son of Mr and Mrs J.F. Bailey, of Duddington, Stamford, and Louisa-Jane, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs D.N. Johnson, of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.

Mr B.A. Baldwin
and Miss J.G. Brown

The engagement is announced between Bernard, elder son of Mr Alan Baldwin and the late Mrs Pamels Baldwin, of 11a Haig Avenue, Poole, Dorset, and Jeanette, younger daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs A.T.C. Brown, of Mallows, Nether Wallop, Hampshire.

Mr C.J. Day
and Miss J.A. Hobbins

The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs J.O. Day, of Redbourne, Lincolnshire, and Judy, daughter of Mr and Mrs G.H. Hobbins, of West Barkwith, Lincoln.

Mr R.A.H. Holbrook
and Miss L.J. Gough-Allen

The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Major P.N.E. Holbrook, of Well, Hampshire, and Mrs H.A. Holbrook, of Park Walk, Chelsea, and Lucinda, daughter of Colonel and Mrs A.W. Gough-Allen, of East Knoyle, Wiltshire.

Mr C.R. Hicks
and Miss D.C. Guest

The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs P.W. Hicks, of Lower Beeding, and Diana, daughter of Mr B.W. Guest, of Clyro, and Mrs M.R. Guest, of Kennington.

Mr D.G. Moore
and Miss E.M.E. Davies

The engagement is announced between Dominic, son of Mr and Mrs B. Moore, of Ashurst, Southampton, and Emma, daughter of Mr and Mrs D.T. Davies, of Saffron Walden, Essex.

Mr A.R. Moss
and Miss P.G. Hoare

The engagement is announced between Alexander, son of Mr and Mrs R.A. Moss, of Chelmsford, Essex, and Patricia, daughter of the late Mr R.G.S. Hoare, and of Mrs Gillian Hoare, of Bosham Hoe, Sussex.

Mr B.D. Muir
and Miss R.M. Dain

The engagement is announced between Brian, son of Mr and Mrs D.E. Muir, of Flax Bourton, Bristol, and Rachel, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs W.M. Dain, of Marlborough, Wiltshire.

Mr P.A.A. Obadia
and Miss I.C.C Bircher

The engagement is announced between Philippe, only son of M and Mme Paul Obadia, of Paris, France, and Isobel, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Frederick Bircher, of Wimbledon, London.

Mr A.R. Peters
and Miss N.J. Schollick

The engagement is announced between Andrew Robert, eldest son of Mr and Mrs David Peters, of Mead House, Bulstrode Way, Gerrards Cross, and Nicola Jane, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Nigel Schollick, of Owls' Barn, Dorney Wood Road, Burnham, Buckinghamshire.

Mr N.W.J. Pratt
and Miss K.J. Feroze

The engagement is announced between Ward, elder son of Mr and Mrs R.J. Pratt, of Sheepcotes, Chigwell Row, Essex, and Karen, daughter of Mr and Mrs S. Feroze, of Barnack, Cambridgeshire.

Lieutenant M.J.B. Rudd
and Miss R.M.P. Marshall

The engagement is announced between Matthew Rudd, Welsh Guards, third son of Mr and Mrs C.R.D. Rudd, of Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, and Rowena, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs R.P. Marshall, of Nairobi, Kenya.

THE THYSSEN MASTERPIECES

David with the Head of Goliath, by Valentin de Boulogne: The influence of Caravaggio, with its dramatic lighting and heavy chiaroscuro, is clear in this painting by the 17th century French artist. Despite his name, Valentin worked mostly in Rome. David Ekserdjian, the author of the exhibition catalogue, describes David as "confronting our gaze with all the passionate but at the same time slightly theatrical intensity of youth".

Old Master Paintings from the Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection is at the Royal Academy, London until June 12.

University news

Oxford

The university will confer an honorary MA degree on Dr Rosemary Rue, Regional General Manager of the Oxford Regional Health Authority, at the degree ceremony on June 11.

LECTURESHIPS

Bampton lectureship 1990: The Rev Alister Edgar McGrath, MA, DPhil, tutor in systematic and historical theology, Wycliffe Hall; Hensley Henson lectureship in theology: The Right Rev Dr Krister Stendahl, Bishop of Stockholm and formerly Professor of Divinity at Harvard University, for 1989-90; Ford's Lectureship in English History: the electors have made the following appointments: Dr Paul Langford, Lincoln College, for 1989-90 and Lord Briggs, Provost of Worcester College, for 1990-1.

Prizes

Passmore Edwards Price 1988: D W Gribble, Scholar of University College; Christopher Welch Scholarship 1988: S Wiltshire, St John's College; Shelley-Mills Prize 1988: jointly to Gillian Austen, Lincoln College, and S P Perry, Scholar of St Catherine's College.

Laurence Binyon Prize 1988: Lydia T Syson, Scholar of St John's College and A J Eburne, Scholar of St Catherine's College; German History Prize 1988: first prize: S J Manley, Magdalen College; Second Prize (jointly): Mary C B O'Connell, St Hilda's College and J P St John Nicolle, Merton College.

Elections

JESUS COLLEGE

To junior research fellowships: Dr R M Cortfield, BSc (Bristol), PhD (Cambridge), in earth sciences, from October 1; Mr J A Mee, BA (Newcastle), in English, from October 1; to a visiting senior research fellowship: Professor J D Jackson, BSc (University of Western Ontario), PhD (MIT), Professor of Physics, University of California, Berkeley. Hall-Houghton Studentship 1988-9: William F Fraatz, St John's College.

Cambridge

Elections

CLARE HALL

Stipendiary fellowship under title C from October 1: Ms Clare O'Halloran (History).

SELWYN COLLEGE

E H R Ford, MD, has been elected Vice-Master of Selwyn College for two years from October 1.

J A C Bland, PhD elected to a fellowship and college lectureship in physics from the Easter Term 1988.

Aberdeen

Dr Anthony Seaton has been appointed to the OMS chair of environmental and occupational medicine. Dr Seaton is Director of the Institute of Occupational Medicine, Edinburgh, and will continue to hold this post.

The court of the university has appointed Mr N. R. D. Begg as University Secretary, in succession to Mr W. M. Bradley, who leaves on April 18.

Chevron Exploration North Sea (CENSL) has made a "substantial donation" to the geology department at the university towards the cost of new technology for the study of petroleum geology.

This is the second such donation made to the department by CENSL and will be used to follow up last year's donation, which went towards the cost of purchasing and installing micro-computers to take seismic software suitable for teaching at postgraduate and undergraduate level.

Kent

The university is to honour three participant in the Lambeth Conference to be held at the university this summer.

Lord Grimond will confer honorary degrees of Doctor of Divinity on the Most Rev Michael Peers, Archbishop and Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, the Most Rev Walter Makhulu, Bishop of Botswana and Archbishop of Central Africa, and the Right Rev K. H. Ting, Principal of Nanjing Theological College.

Promotions

The following lecturers have been promoted to senior lecturers from October 1:

Dr M Y Andrews (English and American literature); Mr J J Glynn (accounting); Dr G H Macdonald (electronic engineering); Dr G R Rubin (law); Dr Janet Sayers (social work); Dr S P Sayers (philosophy); and Dr C W Watson (South East Asian studies).

Brunel

Appointments

Professor Peter G. Sammes to be professor of organic chemistry from January 1.

Professor Alan E. Middleditch to be professor of advanced computer modelling from April 1.

Professor Peter T. Wallington to be head of the department of law from October 1.

Surrey

Professor Graham Bird to be head of the department of economics.

Grants

Science and Engineering Research Council: £137,221 (Midas 5 contribution £45,740) to Dr D F Sheldon, Mr C Douthwaite and Dr A D Crocombe for a teaching company programme; £116,604 (Midas 2 contribution £55,293) to Dr Sheldon and Dr D J Pollard for a teaching company programme; £162,807 to Professor R C Johnson, Dr P M Walker, Dr R C Barrett and Dr J A Tostevin for research into nuclear structure and nuclear reactions.

Shell UK: £160,000 to Mr K J Williams for a Shell research fellowship.

Latest wills

The Hon Joane Mary Sherborne **Dutton**, of West Meon, Hampshire, left estate valued at £1,159,557 net. Among numerous bequests was one of £100,000 to the National Trust for the upkeep of Hinton Ampner House and estate, left to the trust by her late brother, Lord Sherborne. The remainder of her estate, including her home, Brick Kiln Farm, and Shutt's Copse, West Meon, was bequeathed to the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Naturalists' Trust.

Lord Hunt of Fawley, of Fawley Green, Oxfordshire, physician, left estate valued at £89,859 net.

Canon Charles Hugh Egerton **Smyth**, of Woolton Hill, Hampshire, church historian, left estate valued at £304,434 net.

The Hon Hubert John Edward Dominic **Howard**, of Rome, left estate in England and Wales valued at £966,858 net.

Mr Max Ernest **Harari**, of Mayfair, who for many years ran the Wildenstein New Bond Street Gallery, left estate valued at £812,131 net.

Miss Daphne Elizabeth **Braggins**, of Bedford, left estate valued at £1,108,984 net. She left her home to the Abbeyfield Bedford Society, a quarter of the residue of the estate each to the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association and the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital, London, and half to Bedford General Hospital for equipment.

Lady Evans-Lombe, of Little Melton, Norfolk, widow of Vice-Admiral Sir Edward Evans-Lombe, left estate valued at £90,049 net.

Mr Ernest Edward **Wishart**, of Binsted, West Sussex, publisher, left estate valued at £698,588 net.

Miss Alison Mary **Ellis**, of Wickham, Hampshire, left estate valued at £970,030 net.

Birthdays today

Mr Justice Beldam, 63; Mr Richard Rodney Bennett, composer, 52; the Earl of Bessborough, 75; Mr S.W. Cheveley, agricultural consultant, 88; Miss Margaret Howard, broadcaster, 50; Mr Jack Jones, CH, trades unionist, 75; Mrs Sheila Kitzinger, author, anthropologist and childbirth educator, 59; Sir Ieuan Maddock, former principal, St Edmund Hall, Oxford, 71; Mr John Major, MP, 45; Mr Hugh Neill, Lord Lieutenant of South Yorkshire, 67; Sir John Paul, former Governor-General, The Bahamas, 72; Sir John Read, chairman, TSB Group, 70; Miss Anne Stoddart, diplomat, 51; Mr Norman Tebbit, CH, MP, 57; Sir John Vane, pharmacologist, 61.

Marriages

Mr I.S.A. Eimer
and Mrs V.R. Mocatta

The marriage took place in London on Sunday, March 27, between Mr Irvin Eimer, eldest son of the late Mr J. Eimer, and of Mrs V. Eimer, and Mrs Vivien Mocatta (née Altman), elder daughter of Mr and Mrs C. Altman.

Mr M.F. Heaton
and Miss N.C.H. Jarrett

The marriage took place on Friday, March 18, in London between Mr Mark Heaton and Miss Naomi Jarrett.

Glastonbury appeal

The National Trust has launched a £50,000 appeal to repair damage to Glastonbury Tor, where thousands of visitors every year scramble to the top to view the tower of St Michael's Church. The tor is said to be the site of King Arthur's Camelot.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Dennis Parratt, Curate, Cainscross with Selsley, diocese of Gloucester: to be Curate, Shoreham New St Mary de Haura and Shoreham Old St Nicolas, diocese of Chichester.

The Rev Jonathan B V Riviere, Curate, Wymondham, diocese of Norwich: to be Team Vicar in the Quidenham Team Ministry, same diocese.

The Rev Denis R Smith, Curate, St Peter, Hersham, diocese of Guildford: to be Curate, Thatcham, diocese of Oxford.

The Rev David Sutcliffe, Vicar, St Wilfred's, Calverley, diocese of Bradford: to be also Rural Dean of Calverley, same diocese.

The Rev Alex Welby, Assistant Curate, St Mary Magdalene, Stoke Bishop, diocese of Bradford: to be Vicar, St Stephen's, West Bowling, same diocese.

Canon Michael L Yorke, Vice-Provost of Chelmsford Cathedral, diocese of Chelmsford: to be Priest-in-charge, St Margaret with St Nicholas, King's Lynn, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev Timothy R West, Assistant Curate, Mildenhall Team Ministry, diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich: to be Vicar, Melbury Team Ministry, diocese of Salisbury.

The Rev David J Williams, Vicar, Horndon-on-the-Hill, diocese of Chelmsford: to be re-appointed also Rural Dean of Thurrock, same diocese.

Bronze Age discovery

The location of what is described as a major archaeological discovery in north Norfolk is being kept secret to protect it from treasure hunters armed with metal detectors.

A Bronze Age hoard of axe heads, swords and tools have been unearthed by amateur archaeologists on farmland near the coast.

OBITUARY

DR ALAN GIBSON

Physics of the transistor

Dr Alan Gibson, FRS, who greatly advanced the physics of the transistor, died on March 27, at the age of 64.

He was one of the first to appreciate the potential of lasers for investigating the qualities of the semi-conductors which are fundamental to transistors.

This was the main direction taken by the research group which he set up when he became first Professor of Physics at the University of Essex in 1963. He laid the foundations of a department highly regarded for both teaching and research.

Alan Frank Gibson was educated at Rydal School, Colwyn Bay, and Birmingham University. He joined the Telecommunications Research Establishment at Malvern in 1948, working on infra-red detectors and transistor physics.

He rose rapidly up the Scientific Civil Service ladder before moving into his academic career at Essex, where he eventually became Dean of Physical Sciences and a Pro-Vice-Chancellor.

In 1977 he moved from Essex to the Rutherford and Appleton Laboratories to head their laser division, and there, too, he was responsible for the successful launch of a new laboratory. He continued part-time research after his retirement in 1983.

He was most stimulated by research in which understanding of very fundamental physical processes could lead to practical devices.

His contributions were recognized not only by his election to the Royal Society in 1978 but by the award of the Glazebrook Medal and Prize of the Institute of Physics in 1983. He was an honorary Research Fellow at the Clarendon Laboratory, Oxford.

His wife Judith, whom he married in 1945, survives him, with their son and two daughters.

MAJ-GEN SIR CECIL SMITH

Field-Marshal Lord Carver writes:

The very brief notice in your obituary column on March 24, recording the death of Major-General Sir Cecil Smith, at the age of 91, failed to do justice to a remarkable character, one of those stalwart sons of Ulster whom that province has provided to the Army.

"Smuggins", as he was universally known in the Army, made an unrivalled contribution to the development of an efficient and flexible method for the logistic support of mechanized forces in the field.

When General Hobart, after the Munich crisis in 1938, formed "Mobile Division Egypt" in Cairo, he was fortunate to find as his principal logistic staff officer (DAA & QMG) Major C. M. Smith, MC, of the Royal Army Service Corps.

At that time no thought had been given, and no practical steps taken, to solve the problems of logistic support of a mechanized formation in the desert. With exiguous resources, "Smuggins" set about the task with an intense clarity of mind and a vigour and determination which overcame all obstacles.

The result was that, when war broke out against the Italians in 1940, 7th Armoured Division, of which he was then AA & QMG, could roam far and wide in the desert, while their enemy was tied to the single road from the coast.

After that, Cecil Smith occupied without a break a succession of important logistic staff posts, until he became Deputy Quartermaster-General at GHQ Middle East in 1943 and Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff at Eisenhower's headquarters, first in North Africa and then in North-West Europe.

After the war, he held in succession the important posts of Major-General in Charge of Administration and then Chief of Staff at Headquarters Northern Command, the latter a rare achievement for an officer of a non-combat arm.

He was devoted to his Corps, of which he was the professional head as Director of Supplies and Transport from 1948 until his retirement in 1951, and Colonel Commandant from 1950 to 1960. Soldiers of both the Royal Army Service Corps and its successor, the Royal Corps of Transport, will not forget the inspiring sight of his erect, eighty-year-old figure leading the old comrades at their annual memorial service.

Those, like myself, who were fortunate enough to serve their apprenticeship as staff officers under his tutelage know how much they owe to his outstanding example.

PROFESSOR ALEXANDER BAXTER

Professor Alexander (Alec) Baxter, one of the early research pioneers into gas turbine aero engines, died on March 23, at the age of 79.

He was educated at Liverpool University and received post-graduate training at Daimler before working for a time as a research engineer with the Institution of Automobile Engineers.

He had always been interested in both flying and in flight technology, and he earned his pilot's licence in 1929, before he actually obtained a motor driving licence. He joined the RAF Reserve of Officers in 1930.

Baxter joined the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, in 1935, and spent much time in the air developing new designs for superchargers and turbo blowers for high-altitude operations.

In 1939 he was doing some of the earliest tests on rockets. He became involved in work on combustion in rockets and on jet engine combustion chambers particularly for the first axial flow compressor jet engine, the F2, built by Metropolitan Vickers to an RAE design.

Towards the end of the war, he had to examine German V1 and V2 weapons landing on London. His interest in rockets continued after the war with his appointment as superintendent of rocket propulsion at Westcott.

In 1950 he became professor of aircraft propulsion at the College of Aeronautics, Cranfield. He moved to De Havilland seven years later as chief executive, rockets and nuclear power.

He was President of the Royal Aeronautical Society in 1966/7 during which time he visited many of its branches abroad. In 1970 he became an independent research consultant, and until the time of his death continued to set and mark examination papers in engineering for a number of universitites.

Baxter was a competent, effective and unflappable engineer; a man with whom it was easy to work. He was also a man of strong Christian principles whose main pleasure was his family.

His book, *Professional Aero Engineer, Novice Civil Servant*, based on his experiences at the RAE, was published just two days before his death.

His wife, Kathleen, whom he married in 1933, survives him with their son and two daughters.

PROFESSOR J. P. THORNE

Professor J. P. Thorne, Forbes Professor of English Language at Edinburgh University, who died on March 10, at the age of 55, was a key figure in launching epistemics (later to become known as cognitive science) — the study of knowledge systems, which has a strong computer application.

James Peter Thorne (he liked to be called Jimmy, a lucky sobriquet for so glad an immigrant to Scotland) was born in south Wales. After Penarth Grammar School, he went to Jesus College, Oxford, as a Meyricke Exhibitioner. He went to Edinburgh in 1959.

He held a number of prestigious visiting professorships in the United States, at the Sorbonne and in Singapore.

His research reports and articles were much anthologized — for example, *Stylistics and Generative Grammars* (1965); *On Hearing Sentences* (1967); *A Computer Model for the Perception of Syntactic Structures* (1968); *Models for Grammars* (1971); *The Semantics of Modal Verbs* (1974); and *A Note on the Indefinite Article* (1982).

The Forbes Chair had been set up to foster a new approach to the subject of language in general, distinct from, though closely associated with, both philology and literature.

In crossing the disciplinary boundaries as he had to do in his chosen field, he was helped by his actor-like qualities. His lectures, always totally fluent though extempore, raised memories of Richard Burton.

Some great scholars are natural orators rather than natural writers. Such was Jimmy Thorne.

He is survived by his wife, Edith, and their two sons.

MR PATRICK STEPTOE

The Rt Hon J. Enoch Powell, MBE, writes:

In your obituary of the late Patrick Steptoe (March 23) you say that my Unborn Children (Protection) Bill 1984 "required that *all* embryos fertilized *in vitro* should be replaced".

It did not, nor under it would "an infertile couple have to obtain political consent to procreate".

Mrs Evangeline Hunter-Jones, chairman, Women's National Cancer Control Campaign, writes:

Patrick Steptoe helped and encouraged the newly-founded Women's National Cancer Control Campaign in 1965.

He was one of the first members of our medical advisory committee.

A film was made for the WNCCC, "The Ayre Way of Life", to inform and educate all women about cytology tests. In this, Patrick Steptoe was the moving spirit and main actor-doctor.

The WNCCC wishes to place on record how grateful we are to him, and feel that he has helped save the lives of many women who might otherwise have died of cervical cancer.

MR WOLF FRANK

Dr Leslie A. Hill writes:

Wolf and I joined the British War Crimes Executive at the same time, in the summer of 1945, and spent a year together in the same mess at the Nuremberg trials, where he was working as an interpreter.

Simultaneous translation was invented by the Belgian Colonel Dostert, and used for the first time at the Nuremberg trials.

No one had yet been trained to use it, but Wolf at once became a brilliant practitioner, both from German into English and vice versa.

My experiences at Nuremberg convinced me that good interpreters and translators are born, not trained; they have to have the ability to empathize with what they hear or read, then to hold it in some sort of non-linguistic limbo in their brains, and then recreate it in the new language in such a way that the listener or reader gets not only the same denotative message *but* also the subtle connotations.

This, Wolf did instinctively and with a high degree of skill.

He was a great personality. He quickly left our mess and set up house on his own — quite illegally — but his services were so valuable that no one dared question his actions.

MR ALADAR SZEGEDY-MASZAK

Mr Aladar Szegedy-Maszak, an Hungarian diplomatist before the Communists took power, died in Washington on March 25. He was 84.

He was a commentator and assistant chief of the Hungarian service of the Voice of America until his retirement in 1968.

His pre-war diplomatic career included seven years stationed in Berlin, before he returned to Budapest as head of the policy division of the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. When German troops invaded Hungary in 1944, Szegedy-Maszak, a vocal opponent of the Hungarian Arrow Cross fascists, was arrested and taken to Dachau.

His record as an anti-fascist enabled him to return to the Hungarian foreign service during the post-war coalition government, which appointed him Minister envoy to the United States. But when the Communists took over in 1947 he refused allegiance to the new government, and resigned.

After 1963, when a general amnesty was declared in Hungary, he returned frequently to his native land. He maintained an active interest in Hungarian affairs, and he presented an extensive collection of American newspaper cuttings on Hungarian and Eastern European affairs to the National Library of Hungary. Next year, his memoirs will be published in Hungary.

He is survived by his wife, the former Baroness Hanna de Kornfeld, and by two sons and a daughter.

Mr Samuel C. Koupchik, reputedly the basis for the character "Ditto" in *The Last Hurrah*, Edwin O'Connor's celebrated novel about American city bosses, has died in Massachusetts. He was 89.

He was a protégé of the legendary J. M. Curley, the larger-than-life character who dominated Boston politics in the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s, and who attempted to have the film version of *The Last Hurrah* banned.

In his later years, Koupchik, something of a legend himself, sat on a chair in a corridor of the Boston *Statehouse*, allowing his brains to be picked by lobbyists and journalists.

Renato Salvatori, a lifeguard who was "discovered" on the beach and became a star of the Italian cinema, has died, aged 55. His films include Visconti's *Rocco and his Brothers*.

صكنا من الاجل

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

The Lord's unfailing love and mercy still continue, fresh as the morning, as sure as the sunrise. Lamentations 3:22.23

BIRTHS

BEAUPRE - On March 26th, at Heatherwood Hospital, Ascot, to Pamela and Bob, a daughter, Colette Sara.

BREMNER - On 26 March 1988, at the Portland Hospital to Allyson (née Gilbert) and Charles two sons Oliver and Frederick and a daughter Harriet.

BROOMFIELD - On March 26th, 1988, at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, to Liz and Paul, a son, Thomas Oliver.

CLARKE - On March 27th 1988, at Farnborough Hospital, Kent, to Ann (née Wheeler) and John, a son, Samuel John, a brother for Rebecca.

COOPER - On March 23rd, to Carol (née Naylor) and Tony, a daughter, Clare Serena Anke, a sister for Thomas.

COWDEROY - On March 26th, to Iona and James of 41 St. Davis Court, Concord, Massachusetts, a son, Andrew Ion Michael.

CREWE-READ - On March 23rd, 1988, to Belinda (née Bennett) and Christopher, a daughter, Madeleine Britain, a sister for Chloe.

GITTINGS - On March 23rd, 1988, to David and Lynn, a daughter, Lorna Jane.

HOOK - On March 26th, 1988, to Angelique and Philip, a son, Louis Philip.

PHILIPPS - On March 28th, at the Rosie Maternity Hospital, Cambridge, to Charlotte (née Trower) and James, a daughter, Venetia Margaret, a sister for Henrietta.

PURVIS - On March 26th, to Phillida and Christopher, a daughter, *Kerensa Toura Isabel*.

SIMMONS - On March 25th, at Humana Wellington Hospital, to Veronica and Richard, a daughter, Alexandra Rebecca Lucy, a sister for Oliver.

SUNTOOK - On March 27th, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London, to Feroza and Zarir, a son, Cyrus.

THEAKER - On March 25th 1988, to Jane and Jeffrey, a daughter Charlotte Mary Anne, a sister for Victoria and Emma.

THOMAS - On March 6th 1988, to Sue and Clive, a son, Ross Alexander Haynes, a brother for Guy.

WOODMAN - See Thomas.

WYLD - On March 26th, 1988, to Caroline (née Alexander) and David, a daughter Charlotte Mary.

DEATHS

BANKS - On March 27th, Josephine, youngest daughter of the late Canon and Mrs. H.R Coulthard of Breage, Cornwall.

BARROW - On March 27th, peacefully in her 98th year, Winifred, beloved wife of the late Stanley, loving and much loved mother of Walter and Jack, grandmother and great grandmother.

BENTALL - On March 28th 1988, peacefully after a long illness, Sybil G. ("Bibby") beloved wife of the late Gerald Chalmers Bentall C.B.E. of Brook, Godalming. Funeral Service at Witley Church at 2.15pm on Thursday April 7th. Followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. No letters. Enquiries to Pimms of Guildford. Tel 0483 67394.

BERDOE - On March 26th, 1988, suddenly at Burton Bradstock, Helena Joy (née Gerson). "Safe with Jesus in whose presence is fulness of Joy". Psalm 16.

BUTTERWORTH - On March 26th 1988, aged 61 years, Keith Thomas, due to car accident in Canberra, Australia. Deeply mourned by his family and friends. Burial has taken place.

CHAPMAN - On March 26th, Vernon Charles, much loved husband of Margaret. Funeral service on Thursday March 31st, at 11.30 am at Putney Vale Crematorium. Family flowers only. Please no letters. Donations if desired to The Parkinson's Disease Society, 36 Portland Place, London W1N 3DG.

CHRISTIE - On March 26th, peacefully at Glyndebourne after a long illness fought with great courage, Rosamond of Tapeley Park, North Devon, aged 54. Funeral Service at Glynde Church on Thursday March 31st at noon. No flowers. Donations, if given, to the Victoria Hospital, Lewes.

DIXON - On March 24th 1988, at Queen Elizabeth Court, Llandudno, aged 86 years, William, late of Wallace & Tiernan Ltd. Husband of Rene. Funeral service on Tuesday March 29th, at Colwyn Bay Crematorium at 12 noon. Donations in lieu to Queen Elizabeth Court, Matron's Amenities Fund, c/o Messrs Tom Owen & Sons, Funeral Directors, 11 Bodhyfryd Rd, Llandudno. Tel:(0492) 860280.

DRYBURGH - On March 26th, peacefully at Middlesex Hospital, London, 1988, after a long illness met with great courage, Douglas, M.A., A.C.I.I., of Embankment Gardens, Chelsea, younger son of the late Mr William Dryburgh JP and Mrs Jessie Dryburgh of Greenlaw, Berwickshire. Funeral Service at Greenlaw Parish Church on Thursday, March 31st at 2.30 pm. Flowers may be sent to or supplied by David Hardie and Son, Funeral Directors, Galashiels. Tel:(0896) 2465/2957.

EASTERBY - On March 27th, Eric, devoted husband of Margaret, dear father of Jane (deceased) and Sue, father in law and Grandpa. Formerly of Newby Bridge. Funeral at Pennington Church, near Ulverston, Cumbria, on Thursday 31st March at 11am. Family flowers only, donations if wished for R.N.L.I.

FRANKLAND - On March 17th tragically in Australia, Jonathan Charles in his 19th year, of Knutsford, Cheshire. A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Jonathan will be held in St Oswald's Church, Lower Peover near Knutsford on Thursday March 31st at 11.30am followed by a private cremation. Family flowers only, but donations if desired in Jonathan's memory to Shrewsbury House in Everton may be sent to the funeral Directors: J A Whiston, King Street, Knutsford, Cheshire. Tel 0565 2644.

FROST - On March 27th after 22 years of illness bravely borne at The BNHH Streatham, Marta aged 84, widow of Albert and beloved mother of Estelle Townend. Funeral private.

GARNHAM - On March 26th, peacefully at her home in Hammonds, Burnham Market, Norfolk, Muriel Amelia Le Poer (Billie), aged 79 years, loved wife of Francis Garnham and much loved mother, grandmother and great grandmother to all the Campbell Grays and Wilkinsons. Private Cremation. Family flowers only. A Thanksgiving Service will be held on Thursday, March 31st at Burnham Westgate Church at 2.30pm. Donations if desired at the Church or may be sent to Mr S.T. Sutton, Burnt St, Wells-Next-The-Sea, Norfolk for Burnham Westgate Church.

GIBSON - On March 27th, peacefully at home, Alan Frank. Funeral service at Oxford Crematorium on Wednesday March 30th at 3pm. Memorial Service to be held at Letcombe Regis, Oxon, on Tuesday April 26th at 2.30pm. Donations to Save The Children Fund.

GROBEL/JOERIN - On Friday March 25th, peacefully at home, Monica, widow of Henry and beloved aunt and great-aunt to the Ferguson, Grobel, Hackforth and Lidvall families. Requiem 1.30 pm Wednesday March 30th, at St. Anselm's, Kingsway, WC2

FAIRBAIRN - On March 26th, at his daughter's home, in Guildford, Sir Robert Fairbairn, former Chairman of Clydesdale Bank. Very dearly loved by his wife Sylvia and greatly loved by his children Robert, Geoffrey, and Susan and all the grandchildren. Service at St. Machar's Church, Ranfurly, Kilbarchan Road, Bridge of Weir, on Thursday 31st March at 12.30pm. Interment thereafter. Private.

HOPE - On March 25th 1988, peacefully, Stanley Hope aged 70 years. Husband of Rowan and father of Richard, Roger and Robin. Cremation at Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham on Thursday March 31st at 12.30pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to the E.M.U. (Endoscopy Medical Unit) Appeal, Hemel Hempstead General Hospital. Or the Hospice of St Francis, Berkhamsted.

LIGHTFOOT - On March 25th, 1988, peacefully at home, Raymond, in his 82nd year, formerly of Cumberland, Stafford and Southampton. Husband of Trix. Private cremation. A Service of Thanksgiving for his life will be held at Hamble Parish Church, Hamble, Hampshire, on Saturday April 9th, 1988, at 12 noon. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to: Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, 15/19, Britten St, London SW3 3TY.

LUNN - On Saturday March 26th, Phyllis, wife of the late Sir Arnold Lunn and elder daughter of the late Mr and Mrs O.N. Holt-Needham. Funeral private. Requiem date to be announced later.

MACDONALD-TYLER - On March 26th 1988, peacefully in her 98th year, in hospital, Winifred Judith Drayton, very dearly loved wife of the late Sir Henry Macdonald-Tyler, C.I.E., D.L., Umbra, Magilligan, County Londonderry, and mother of the late Marion Dodds and of Cynthia Tarrant. Service at Tamlaghtard Parish Church, Wednesday March 30th at 12am. Followed by cremation.

MANNERS - On March 27th, peacefully in her sleep, Vera aged 88 sadly missed by her son and family. Funeral at 11.am on Thursday March 31st at Woodvale Crematorium, Brighton. enquiries to Fuller & Scott, The Wakelyns, Uckfield 0825 3241.

MARSHALL - On March 27th, peacefully and bravely, Jeremy Marshall, beloved husband and father, (of Quilter Goodison, for over 20 years). Funeral at St Stephen's Church, College Road, South Dulwich at 3.10pm, on March 31st. No flowers please. Donations to Dulwich Hospital, East Dulwich Grove, SE22.

MOORE - On March 24th 1988, peacefully at Addenbrookes Hospital at Cambridge, Matthew Christian aged 6 months, beloved son of Graham and Clare, grandson of Sheila and Tom Moore, and Valerie Brigden.

REYNOLDS - On March 25th, 1988, in Bristol, Paula, wife of John, daughter of Tessie, mother of Christopher, Matthew and Julian, grandmother of Joanna, Alexander, Sophie and William.

SCHILLER - On March 25th, peacefully at home in her 89th year, Berta, daughter of the late Samuel and Gabriele Tugendhat. Very much loved and now very much missed by Klaus, Verena, Judy, her grandchildren, Nicholas, Adrian, Virginia and Benjamin, and her many relatives and friends. Ceremony at Woking, St John's Crematorium on Wednesday March 30th, at 4.00 pm. Family flowers only please, to G Boutall & Sons, 50 High Road, Byfleet. Tel: Byfleet (09323) 46037. Donations if desired to St Peter's Hospital, Chertsey.

SHORT - On March 26th, Constance Short, in her 98th year. Widow of Augustus Egerton, beloved mother of Jill and Diana, great grandmother of Katie and Tina. Funeral at Upper Froyle Church, on Wednesday 30th March at 2pm, followed by private Cremation. Family flowers only, donations to Phyllis Tuckwell Memorial Hospice C/O Kemp & Stevens, 93 High Street, Alton, Hants.

SINCLAIR - On March 27th, 1988, peacefully at home after a long illness, Prudence Jennifer, loved forever by her husband Ian and her daughters Lynette, Anna and Karina. Funeral service at Budleigh Salterton Parish Church, Devon on Wednesday 30th March at 2.45pm followed by Cremation at Exeter and Devon Crematorium.

SPITTLEHOUSE - On March 25th, 1988, at Lightwood, Jane (née Priestley) aged 45 years. Dearly beloved wife of James and a very dear mother of Louise, dearly loved daughter of Joyce and the late William Priestley and dear sister of Susan and Robert. Service at Dore Church, Sheffield at 9.45am, on Wednesday March 30th followed by interment in the churchyard. Flowers or donations if prefered for St Lukes Nursing Home C/O G&M Lunt, 36 Abbey Lane, Sheffield 8.

STITT - On March 27th 1988, at Royal Infirmary Edinburgh, Lieut. Colonel J H (Jack) Stitt M.C., aged 89 years, formerly of The Gordon Highlanders and Drumcairn Nursery, Blairgowrie, dear father of John and Sheila (Rutherford) father in law of Angela and Jim, grand father and great grandfather. Service at Mortonhall Crematorium (Pentland Chapel), Edinburgh, on Thursday March 31st, at 2.45 pm. Family flowers only.

STREET - On March 24th, peacefully, aged 91, Laura Elizabeth of Winton Nursing Home, Stockbridge and formerly of Petersfield. Service at Berwick St James' Church on Wednesday 30th March at 2.30 pm.

STRUTHERS - On March 27th, after a long illness borne with courage and dignity at Clouds Hill House, St. George, Bristol, Joan Mary (née Foss) aged 73 years, widow of George, loving mother of George and Charles and dearly loved sister of *Heather, Tim and Molly*. Funeral service and interment at Avonview Cemetery Chapel, St George, Bristol, on Thursday 31st March at 1.00pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired to St. Peter's Hospice, St. Agnes Avenue, Knowle, Bristol or The Marie Curie Memorial Foundation, c/o Mrs G.L. Firth, Higher Crenna Farm, Silver Hill, Perranwell Station, Truro, Cornwall TR3 7LW.

TUNBRIDGE - On March 26th, peacefully at Chalfont and Gerrards Cross Hospital, Webble. Loved by Frankie, She She, Boe Boe and Anners and Libby. Admired by all who knew her. Funeral service at Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham on Wednesday March 30th at 9.30 am. Family flowers only, but donations if desired, to The Arthritis and Rheumatism Council, 41 Eagle Street, London WC1R 4AR.

TURNER - On March 26th 1988, peacefully in her sleep at Fairfield Nursing Home, Inverness, in her 99th year, Lady Emily Annis, beloved wife of the late Engineer Vice-Admiral Sir Frederick Richard Gordon Turner K.C.B., O.B.E., and mother of Hilary, Mary, Nancy and David. Requiem at St. James Church, Dingwall at 10:30 am Wednesday March 30th. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired to: Highland Hospice, Inverness.

TYLER. See Macdonald-Tyler.

WEBSTER - On March 27th, after a long illness fought with great courage, Leslie, aged 71, dearly loved husband, father and grandfather. Funeral to take place on Thursday, 31st March at 10.30 am at Breakspear Crematorium, Ruislip. Family flowers only, but donations if desired for Motor Neurone Disease Association, 61, Derngate, Northampton.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

LARKING - A service for Bettie Larking will be held at St Mary's, Cadogan St, London SW3, on Tuesday, April 19th at 11.45 am.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

AGAZARIAN - Jack Charles Stanmore F/Lt, Royal Air Force V.R., S.O.E., murdered 29th March, 1945, Flossenberg and Noel le Chevalier, F/O, Royal Air Force A, killed in action 16th May, 1941, Cyrenaica "Dear Gloia Soli Deo".

Astronomy

The night sky in April

By Michael Hendrie, Astronomy Correspondent

Mercury will be in superior conjunction on the 20th. Before that date it will be too close to the Sun for observation but it might be visible low in the evening sky by the end of the month when it sets one hour after sunset.

Venus will be at its greatest eastern elongation (46°) on the 3rd, when it will not set for nearly five hours after the Sun, magnitude -4.4. The three-day-old crescent Moon passes just to the north of Venus on the evening of the 19th.

Mars continues to rise earlier and by the end of the month it will be soon after 02h. The Moon will be a little to the west of Mars on the morning of the 10th.

Jupiter should be visible in the west early in the month, setting two hours after the Sun but by the end of the month it sets at sunset.

Saturn continues to rise earlier and by the end of the month is above the horizon by midnight: magnitude +0.4. Saturn reaches a stationary point on the 11th when its eastward motion among the stars becomes a westerly one as the planet approaches opposition in June. The gibbous Moon will pass to the south on the 8th — 9th.

Uranus continues to share the same accessibility as Saturn and is stationary on the 4th.

Neptune follows Saturn and Uranus, half an hour later and is stationary on the 11th, but like Uranus is not visible to the naked eye.

The Moon: full, 2d09h; last quarter, 9d19h; new, 16d12h; first quarter, 23d23h.

Algol: With the lighter evenings and with Perseus low in the west by the time of our chart, the only convenient minimum in April occurs about 12d22h.

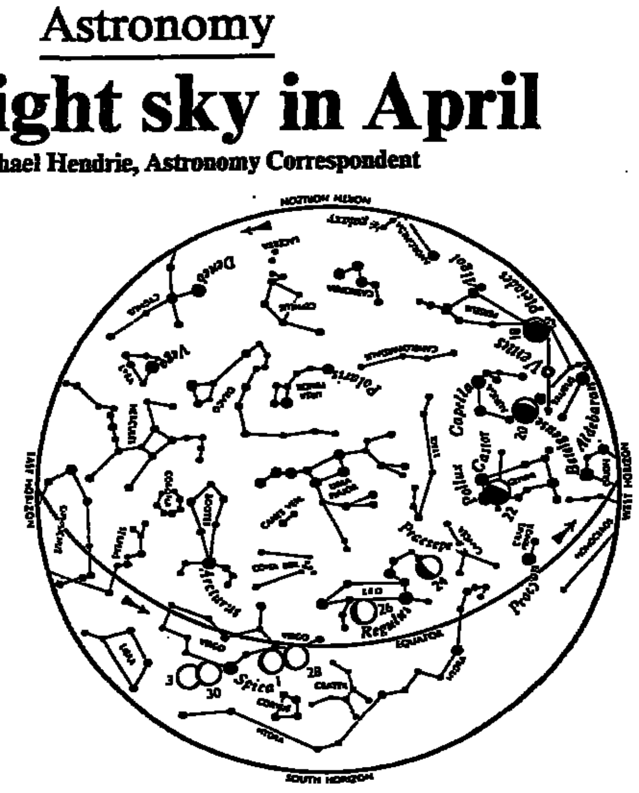
With the Sun moving rapidly north during April, sunset is an hour later by the end of the month at 19h30m, with sunrise at 04h30m. By the end of the month it is not dark enough to see most of the stars on the chart until about 21h.

On any clear night with little moonlight one may see meteors or shooting stars. These small interplanetary particles enter the Earth's atmosphere at many miles per second and heat the air along their paths, producing the luminous trail, usually lasting only a second or two.

At certain times of the year the Earth passes through streams of particles producing showers of meteors. Such a shower reaches its peak about April 21st when up to 15 meteors per hour may be seen degrees to the south-west of Vega.

These Lyrids are worth looking out for at a time when other meteor activity is low. As the constellation of Lyra is rising during the evening, conditions for seeing them are better after midnight.

During the first days of April, Venus will pass close to the bright star cluster, the Pleiades. Given a few clear evenings it will be a good opportunity to observe the motion of a planet relative to the stars. The use of binoculars should greatly improve their visibility and Venus and the Pleiades should be within the same field of view for several days.



The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the horizon in the latitude of London at 23h (11 pm) at the beginning, 22h (10 pm) in the middle, and 21h (9 pm) at the end of the month, local mean time. At places away from the Greenwich meridian the Greenwich times at which the diagram applies are later than the above by one hour for each 15 deg west of Greenwich and earlier by a like amount if the place be east. The map should be turned so that the horizon the observer is facing (shown by the words around the circle) is at the bottom, the zenith being at the centre. Greenwich Mean Time, known to astronomers as Universal Time and expressed in 24-hour notation, is used in the accompanying notes unless otherwise stated.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF THE FOLLOWING COMPANY
COMPANY NUMBER: 1830972
VL SECURITIES TRADING LIMITED
(In members' voluntary liquidation)

On 23 March 1988, the above named company was placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Dipankar Mohan Ghosh and Jonathan Guy Anthony Phillips of Price Waterhouse, No.1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL were appointed joint liquidators by the members.

The liquidators give notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the above company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the liquidators at the above address by the 20th day of April 1988. The liquidators also give notice under the provision of Rule 4.182A (6) that on 27 April 1988, they intend to make a final return to creditors who have submitted claims by 20 April 1988, and that there will be no further distribution for creditors.

The company is able to pay all known creditors in full.

Dated this 23rd day of March 1988
DM Ghosh FCA
Joint Liquidator

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE 1986 A 7819
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF FREEHOLD LAND KNOWN AS 3/4 PINE TREE GLEN, WESTBOURNE, BOURNEMOUTH REGISTERED AT H.M. LAND REGISTRY UNDER TITLE NO. OT 126908
AND IN THE MATTER OF AN ALLEGED CHARGE DATED THE 14TH FEBRUARY 1978 MADE BETWEEN (1) D.G. MACDONALD ALLEN and (2) A.J.L. WOODARD REGISTERED AGAINST THE TITLE ON THE 26th JULY 1985 BEING THE ENTRY NO. 4 IN THE CHARGES REGISTER THEREOF
BETWEEN:-
DESMUNAIGH GEOFFREY MACDONALD ALLEN Plaintiff
and
ANITA JOAN LEES WOODARD trading as M.H. Woodard and Partners (a firm) Defendant

TO ANITA JOAN LEES WOODARD the Defendant c/o 20 York Town Road, Sandhurst, Camberley, Surrey GU17 8DT —

TAKE NOTICE that an action has been commenced against you in the above Court by Desmunaigh Geoffrey MacDonald Allen c/o 1 King's Bench Walk, Temple, London, EC4Y 7DD for an Order that the Charges Register of the above mentioned Title be rectified by the cancellation of entry No 4 therein which notes that the above mentioned alleged charge dated the 14th February 1978 on the grounds that the said alleged charge is valid and an Order has been made that the publication of a Notice of the entry of such action in the Times Newspapers shall be deemed to be good and sufficient service of the proceedings on you.

The matter will be heard at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2 in Room No. 173 before Master Munroe on Friday the 29th day of April 1988 at 10.30 a.m. on which day you are to appear and if you do not appear either in person or by your Solicitor at the time and place above mentioned such order will be made as the Court thinks just.

Please telephone the appropriate number listed below between 9am and 6pm. Monday to Friday, or between 9.30am and 1.00pm on Saturdays.

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Harrods
KNIGHTSBRIDGE

هكذا من الاصل

FASHION by Liz Smith

MANSION HOUSE POLISH

How Do Four Women, With The Shopping Power Of Forty, Organize Their Official Wardrobes? A Lady Mayoress And Her Daughters Show Their Working Style

Years back, *when I was a minion in Vogue's* fashion room and was left to man the phones at lunchtime, a frequent query to be fielded was for advice on what to wear to official engagements. "I am wearing a green strapless dress to a Mansion House dinner with green shoes, green stole, green bag. What colour should my gloves be?"

Then, as now, it is simply *pas chic* to be slavishly colour-matched from top to toe. Strict etiquette dictates that shoulders should be covered for a white-tie dinner. Gloves, *de rigueur* of course, could be green if something else in the outfit were toned down. Otherwise, white or any neutral shade like ivory, putty or black would do.

A supply of white kid gloves in three lengths was a present that particularly delighted Lady Spratt when she moved into Mansion House last November as wife of the present Lord Mayor of London, Sir Greville Spratt. With their traditionally *generous gift* to the incoming Lady Mayoress, the Worshipful Company of Glovers had relieved Lady Spratt of at least one of the numerous items on a shopping list of a scale faced perhaps only by a royal princess setting off on an official tour.

In addition to the wardrobe of evening dresses required for the formal dinners she attends every night of the week, many of which are the white-tie occasions in Mansion House that she hosts herself, Lady Spratt has had to plan clothes for a diary of official engagements that can tot up to a staggering 10 or 11 on any weekday – and this spanning an entire year.

Add to these three beautiful daughters who play an important role in the family's official social life, and you have four women with a shopping power equal to forty. How do they cope?

Today, Lady Spratt is opening the doors of Mansion House, and of the opulent Egyptian Hall within, for a celebration of British fashion, attended by the Duchess of York. London's top designers will present their spring and summer collections, and proceeds will go to Action Research for the Crippled Child, one of several children's charities for which the Spratts have crusaded for 20 years and of which the Duchess of York is president.

A black *ottoman suit from Chelsea Design for the* afternoon show; a pink and orange shot taffeta crinoline from the Emanuels' couture collection for the evening gala: these are just two of the many decisions Lady Spratt has had to make as she faced her wardrobe armed with her diary this week.

Hardy Amies, Bellville Sassoon, Chelsea Design, Emanuel – these are some of the British designers favoured by so many of our royals and other stylish women in the public eye. And it is their evening dresses that billow out of the extensive wardrobes in the private apartments in Mansion House. Lined up to go with them are the satin shoes from Gamba which the Lady Mayoress herself dyes to match.

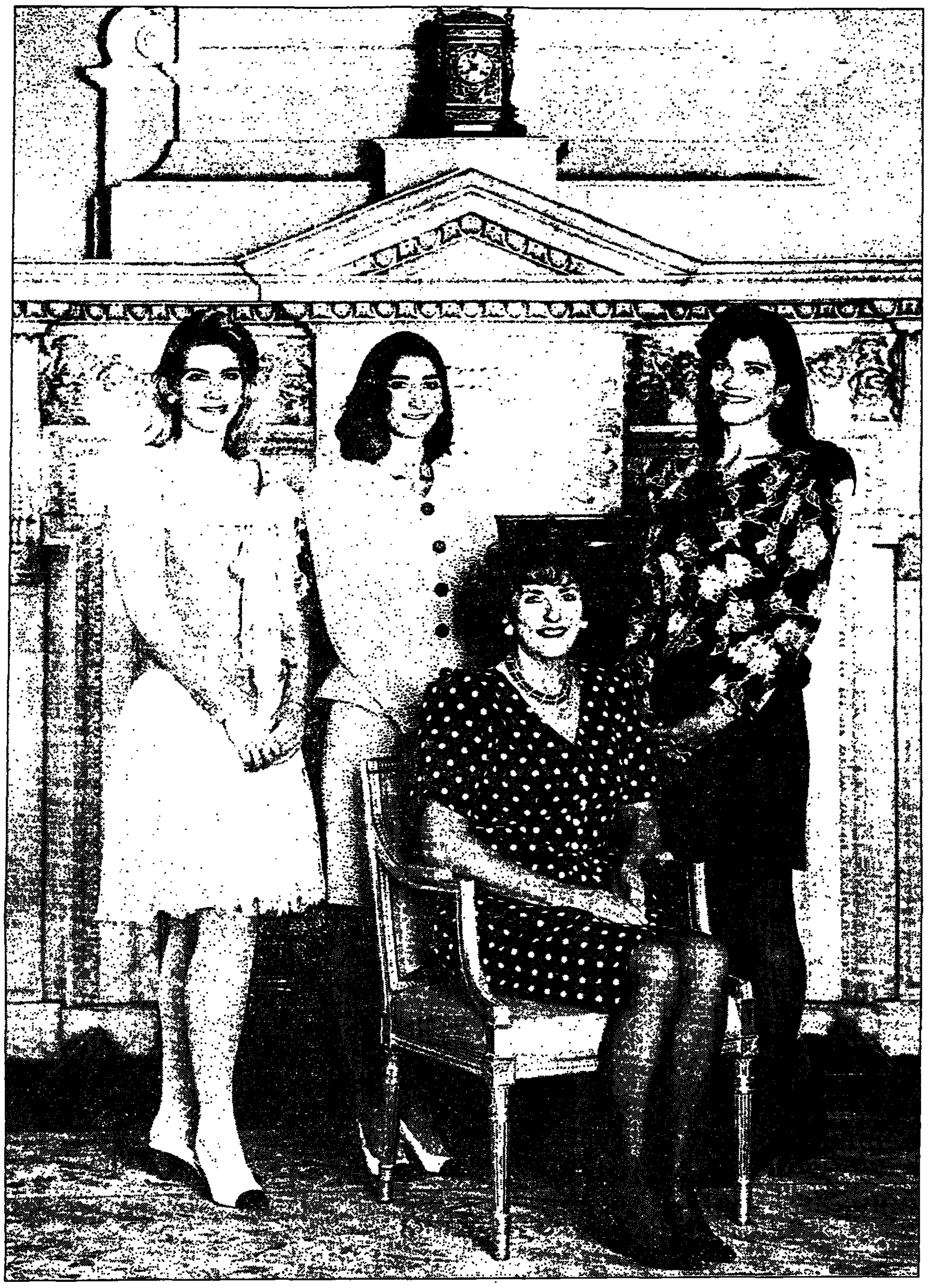
An introduction to Maureen Baker, a key designer in Lady Spratt's wardrobe, was made by her predecessor. A favourite of the Princess Royal and successive incumbents of Mansion House, Maureen Baker's clothes have a certain colourful impact yet manage to avoid an intimidating high-fashion image.

A housekeeper takes care of the day-to-day upkeep of Lady Spratt's expanding wardrobe. A hairdresser visits Mansion House once a week. For a day of official engagements she wears a hat. "I think that when people invite us out it is fair to repay the compliment by dressing up," she says.

Each daughter leads her own busy life. Joanna, 29, the eldest, is an interior designer, married with a two-year-old daughter. Georgina, 27, is a property agent and Alexandra, the youngest at 23, works in public relations for a financial company in the West End. Most of their evening dresses and smart outfits, which they swap around among themselves, are made by Micheline Montague-Scott, a designer based near the Spratt family home in Haslemere. It was she who made Georgina's wedding dress. The bride's mother wore blue by Maureen Baker.

Students Take A Place On The World Stage

When the City of London presents British fashion at the Mansion House today a team of 12 students from the Royal College of Art will share the limelight. Their range of curvy coats and suits in wool will sell in stores around the world. The college Common Rooms became a showroom during the recent Fashion Week. Trade was brisk in the short coats dreamt up by the students; they ranged from fashionable tents (Lacroix's influence) to some interesting new cocoons. The lines are manufactured by Strelitz. Look out for them after the summer sales in Harvey Nichols or Browns in London, Lisa Stirling in Manchester. The RCA Collection is sponsored by the International Wool Secretariat.



MAIN PICTURE: from left, Alexandra Spratt in taupe Prince of Wales check linen jacket with powder pink silk lace fichu collar and lace skirt, £835, Catherine Walker for Chelsea Design Company, 65 Sydney Street, SW3. Brown and white shoes, £89, Pied à Terre ROUGE, 19 South Molton Street, W1; 14 Sloane Street, SW1. Georgina Webb-Bowen in cherry and white cotton cloqué collarless jacket and skirt, £705, Catherine Walker for Chelsea Design Company. Shoes, £89.95, Rayne, 15-16 Old Bond Street, W1; Jenners, Edinburgh; Frasers, Glasgow. Lady Spratt in navy and white spotted grosgrain dress, £359, Bellville Sassoon, 73 Pavilion Road, SW1. Patent shoes, £79.95, Rayne. Joanna Forbes in pink and red rose-printed black moiré jacket and black crêpe skirt, £716, Bellville Sassoon. Shoes, £52.99, Hobbs, 37 Brompton Road, SW3

LEFT: Alexandra Spratt in navy and white hound's-tooth check suit; jacket, £95; skirt, £49, by Windsmoor; Selfridges, Dickins & Jones, Harvey Nichols, Harrods. Straw hat, £165, Philip Somerville, 11 Blenheim Street, W1. Shoes, £89.95, Rayne. Georgina Webb-Bowen in white wool cardigan suit braided in scarlet; jacket £205; skirt, £99; by Windsmoor; stockists as above and Windsmoor branches. Shoes by Rayne, as above. Red straw breton, £300, by Graham Smith for Kangol, Harrods. All jewellery by Ken Lane, 30 Burlington Arcade, W1. Gloves from a selection by Dents at Selfridges; Alders; Owen Owen.

Hair by Kathleen Bray for Clifford Stafford
Make-up by Nikki Whelan
Photographs by
DAVID ANTHONY

PEOPLE

Scots and sun spots

Twinning Glasgow to Saint Tropez takes a leap of the imagination. Matched, however, in their slavish dedication to fashion, they are the two hot-spots of style that our pioneering *designer Katharine* Hamnett has targeted for the opening of two new shops. The Sun Set in Saint Tropez will get their chance to stock up on Hamnett's classic bush shirts, Lycra swimsuits, skintight pedal pushers and cotton drill miniskirts from next Saturday; and next week a glass-fronted shop opens in Glasgow's new Princes Square shopping mall, which is done up in the Vienna Secessionist style. The shops are the spearhead of Hamnett's expansion campaign. As well as the three existing shops (two in London, one in Guildford) owned by Aguecheek, Hamnett plans to open other outlets in central London and is herself decamping from the gloomy cave she constructed in her Islington headquarters to spacious new offices in the West End.

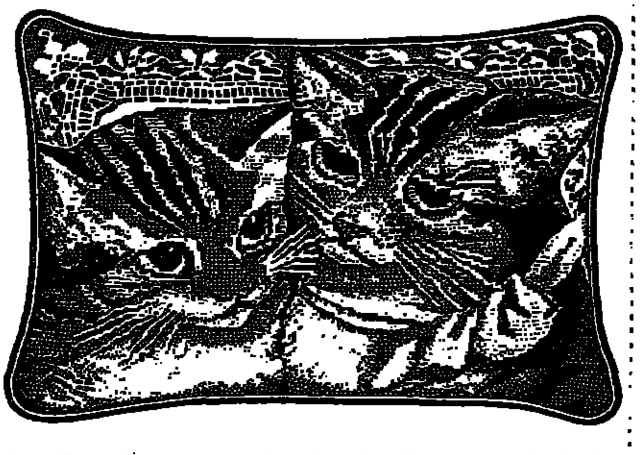
Think Pink

Any colour will do – as long as it is Pink. The three Mullen brothers (Peter, James and John) are aiming to get more men to apply this variation on the Henry Ford principle of colour selection when buying a shirt. Their classic Thomas Pink shirt, made in Dublin and which *comes in more than 50* colours, can now be ordered by post. The first Pink catalogue out on April 5 includes a choice of 30 or more of their generously cut classics in Oxford weaves and two-fold cotton poplins, plain or boldly striped, each priced £32. For a catalogue call 01-581 9375.

Action time

Fashion designers are focused on children's charities this Easter. First the fashion gala in aid of Action Research for the Crippled Child (see left); and now plans to raise £17,500 for Help a London Child from the sale of T-shirts. Martin and Melanie Lent, who have cornered a niche in the high street with the lively, youthful clothes launched five years ago under their Pamplemousse label, have produced 3,500 T-shirts stamped with the Help a London Child 88 slogan; these will sell for £5 each this week and next, through the Anonymous shops dotted around London (Brent Cross, Croydon, Kingston, Ealing, as well as Oxford Circus and Torrington Place, W1), as well as in the foyer of Capital Radio's HQ.

VICTORIAN TAPESTRY CATS BY
KAFFE FASSETT



Kaffe Fassett's new tapestry kit is based on the most popular design from his bestselling book *Glorious Needlepoint*. Ever since the book was published people have asked us why his Victorian cats were not available as a kit. The answer was that in the original design over thirty colours were mixed and it was too complicated to produce even as a chart. Since then he has managed to reduce *the number of colours to 26 without losing the subtle shading* in the faces, and we now have one of the most beautiful and appealing tapestry kits he has ever produced.

The cats themselves are in subtle shades of mid and dark brown, beige, and ochre golds. They both have bright dramatic eyes: china blue for the cat on the left and green for the cat on the right, and they are set against a lace patterned background of cream on grey. The bow is in soft pinks.

Measuring 12½in × 17in the canvas is printed in the full 26 colours on 10 holes to the inch canvas. It comes with enough wool from the Rowan tapestry range to complete the design in either half-cross or tent stitch, and the kit comes complete with canvas, yarn, needle and clear instruction leaflet. At £24.95 it represents outstanding value. Use FREEPOST – no stamp needed.

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TELEVISION

Heart strings

"The heart is excellent", pronounced a subtitled beard in *Horizon* (BBC2), and then went on to commend the liver in similar terms. Since the gentleman in question was speaking in French, one could have been forgiven for imagining that one had stumbled into *Take Six Cooks.*

This was in fact a Canadian heart surgeon, and it was pure coincidence that the chief object of his interest resembled a *poulet de Bresse.* Plucked from the corpse of a girl in Newark, New Jersey, the organ was whisked off in a plastic lunch-pail to Montreal, and there replaced a diseased heart which was heaving like a Hammer special effect. The recipient died later that day.

This award-winning documentary had many of the elements of cheap drama: the ready-made heroes in white coats; the ailing patients and their anxious families; the sprinting down long hospital corridors.

But the full-colour jolts of its operating theatre sequences were less harrowing than the agonized tension of waiting for suitable donors, with bulletins from the American hospital coming in like *stays of* execution. "Heart transplant cases don't complain much," it was explained — and one could see why.

The second transplant featured here was a success, and we last saw its survivor gleefully swinging a baseball bat to public acclaim. The film's editor had already done his bit to lift the gloom by fading his scenes to white.

Barry Norman wrapped up *Talking Pictures* (BBC1) with clips of some very expensive drama, notably the aptly-named *Over The Top*, for which Sylvester Stallone was paid $12 million. And why (as Norman claims he never says) not?

Hollywood has always bred extravagance; what it seems to be doing now is to channel more megabucks into fewer movies, which in turn are aimed at a more widespread but culturally narrower audience. Studios owned by multinationals will inevitably be regarded as just another chunk of the corporate empire.

The parade of moguls claiming not to be influenced by public taste was handsomely counterpointed by shots of market researchers sounding out likely punters over the telephone. Given a multiple choice on the chance to watch a *re-run of this entertaining* series, I would have to tick "probably".

Martin Cropper

● The veteran singer Adelaide Hall will be in concert with her own musicians at the Donmar Warehouse Theatre, London, April 14-17. London based since before the Second World War, Adelaide is particularly associated with Duke Ellington's *"Creole Love Call".*

Riccardo Muti returns to the Festival Hall tonight, for the first time in two years, conducting unknown Cherubini. He talks to **Richard Morrison** about his musical passions and his plans

Restrained lyricism

Riccardo Muti was in south London, putting the London Philharmonic Orchestra and a specially-gathered professional choir through two stiff rehearsals in unknown Cherubini. Less than 48 hours earlier he had been at La Scala, Milan, where — as music director — he conducted a new production of *The Flying Dutchman* (praised by John Higgins on this page last Friday). He returned to Milan for a weekend of more Wagner. Now he is back in London, conducting at the Festival Hall tonight for the first time in two years.

"Normally I make sure my schedule avoids this sort of thing," says Muti. "But I wanted to come back to London. In a certain way *this is my second home."*

What enticed him back was a further chance to champion Cherubini who, along with Scriabin, is one of Muti's more surprising musical passions. In his decade as music director of the Philharmonia he recorded both of Cherubini's Requiems, and the Mass for the Coronation of Charles X. "That is the one I performed last year in the Vatican in front of the Pope."

Tonight, London hears more Cherubini coronation music — or, more accurately, would-be coronation music. "It is the mass written for the coronation of Louis XVIII but never performed, because Louis died.

"I like Cherubini. As I explained to the orchestra, he is a very unusual composer, because his music has nothing for effect. It's a mixture of Italian lyricism and classical restraint. To achieve that combination is very difficult."

Muti may now be fêted in his homeland and in America, but he *built his reputation and his expertise* in London, where in 10 years he turned what was the struggling New Philharmonia Orchestra into a great ensemble. "It was, I felt, like my instrument at the end."

So what does Muti say to those conductors who maintain that it is impossible to be a proper music director in London? "What was possible then is possible now. Of course there are difficulties here.

"In Philadelphia, for instance, where I have been music director *for eight* years, the Academy of Music is the orchestra's home.

"They don't go round from place to place, as in London. This morning we rehearsed in the Festival Hall, this afternoon in Henry Wood Hall — and we were lucky. Sometimes it is a school hall.

"And another thing about London. You should have an entire orchestra made *members* of the orchestra — 100 per cent, not 80 or even 90. You can put the best players in the world together for an event, and you still don't have an orchestra."

"We are building a new hall. It is a big revolution because, for Philadelphians, the Academy of Music is the Glorious, the Temple. But we are collecting the money, and by 1992 the new hall will be finished.

"I have also put a big accent on contemporary music. Last year we celebrated the bicentennial of the American Constitution by commissioning new pieces from six American composers.

"And now I perform at least one opera a year in concert. That doesn't sound revolutionary to you, but you must remember that in 45 years under Ormandy the Philadelphia never once played an opera. Great symphony orchestras must play opera."

Muti is also proud of opening general rehearsals at Philadelphia to students. "I decided the Academy of Music was too untouchable. I have opened the doors of this temple. Now the Philadelphia Orchestra is not just a divine entity, but an instrument that everyone can hear."

Will he being throwing open the doors of La Scala? "Well, in Milan we have an interesting situation. Everywhere opera houses have financial problems, but the La Scala theatre has, in the last few years, been in a wonderful economic situation."

So Muti has planned big projects. First, the orchestra: "they have improved tremendously in the last year, and are playing this *Dutchman* — not the favoured repertoire of Italian orchestras — really quite well."

Muti's tactic here has been simple: he rehearses till players drop. "For *Don Giovanni* I had ten reading rehearsals, just with orchestra. If you want to make an orchestra better, you have to work."

Then there is repertoire. "Years ago La Scala had no Mozart at all." Muti, who unashamedly admits to seeing *Amadeus* four times, was clearly not happy with that. Next March he will do the three Mozart/Da Ponte operas together in repertoire.

The season also includes two other prized causes: the uncut, six-hour version of Rossini's *Guillaume Tell* ("there is nothing you *can* throw away") and Gluck's *Orfeo.*

He has plans for a large-scale project, involving musicologists and young singers, to work towards "an authentic Italian way" of doing Monteverdi. And there will be more Wagner.

He returns to Covent Garden in the early 1990s for a new production of *I puritani*, and may be tempted to the Festival Hall again if a projected Scriabin series with the LPO goes ahead

But Muti, at 46, increasingly sees himself as a man with a mission. "The young generation is coming back to real culture — live theatre and music — perhaps because television has been so disappointing.

"But are we ready with the right answers? If we lose this moment, in five years we will be back where we were 20 years ago."

BILL WARHURST

No woolly thoughts: London is in some senses Muti's second home

Electronic soap opera

Il faut passer par les nuages
Théâtre de la Ville

PARIS THEATRE

Il faut passer par les nuages, by François Billetdoux, is one of those rare pieces of so-called avant-garde theatre that, 25 years on, has kept pace with its label.

Indeed, Lucien Pintilie's hi-tech revival of this philosophical French precursor to soap opera scenarios, makes one wonder how Jean-Louis Barrault managed so successfully to direct its first performance, back in the silicon chipless Sixties. According to Billetdoux, the work is "total theatre". And, that is exactly what Romanian born Pintilie's ingenious, typically over-the-top direction achieves.

Aided by Radu and Miruna Boruzescu's monumental steel stadium design, a vast "video wall", a flotilla of camera-men and a chorus line of controlling computer screens, Pintilie simultaneously orchestrates live theatre, projected backdrops, an electronic storyboard which succinctly outlines the action as in a silent film, and eye-ball popping close-ups of the characters during soul-searching soliloquies.

He also uses cinema-screen techniques to reinforce the visual impact of dramatic novelties such as the silent descent of a glass lift bearing the mummified body of a late husband — delivered parcel post — or the moment the action suddenly disappears into a hole in the stage. It is decidedly a production for theatregoers with necks, eyes and brains that are able to swivel at Wimbledon Centre Court speed.

Constructed by Billetdoux as a dramatic opus in five movements, the play takes its title from a Jean Joubert quote, the implication being that those who make it through life's clouds get to see the light. The central character, Claire Verduret-Balade, is, to quote the author, "a female alley cat" who claws and paws her way into the bourgeoisie.

Rich and infamous, she manipulates her diverse offspring by keeping a tight hold on their tangle of metaphorical umbilical cords. Until, one storm-cloudy day, she loses her mind in attempting to find her *raison d'être*, and dismembers the entire family empire, reducing it to a handful of uncut diamonds.

Billetdoux uses the superficial banality of his characters to throw into relief the cankers of modern society. This production proves the work to be as prophetically observant of life in the Eighties, as it was when it was written in 1963.

The fragmented tableaux construction and unsheathed symbolism, reminds one of Brecht, while there are glimpses of Obaldia in the use of surrealism to reveal the extraordinary through the ordinary. Technically, however, it reads Billetdoux, shaped by Pintilie.

Heading the 40-strong cast is Michelle Marquais as the ageing *haute couture* alley cat. She dominates the stage with a quiet strength that serves to highlight the patchiness of the rest of the performances.

She is strongly in her element during the key fourth movement. Here, in a setting devoid of all extraneous electronic gimmicks, her steely performance and the force and beauty of the text is at its most evident.

Diane Hill

At the Théâtre de la Ville in Paris until April 2, after which it is due to go on tour.

Fine and dandified

GALLERIES

Exhibition Road
Royal College of Art

Works on Paper
Marlborough Fine Art

Jean Cocteau
Albemarle Gallery

For a carefully considered and structured show (which it undoubtedly is), **Exhibition Road**, at the Royal College of Art until April 24, is remarkably difficult to make consistent sense of. It is easy enough to enjoy and find interesting, picture by picture or pair by pair, but the overall pattern remains elusive.

That this is so is no doubt very much to the credit of the Royal College as a teaching institution. For what the show sets out to do is to give a panoramic picture of the work of pupils during the greater part of the 20th century, juxtaposing wherever possible student work and recent work by some hundred artists who have gone through the College's painting courses.

This is a politically significant choice when we are constantly hearing of Jocelyn Stevens's determination to move the College away from its traditional preoccupation with Fine Art and off in a more design- and industry-oriented direction. The show in fact provides a timely reminder of how many among the country's leading artists (and sometimes international earners) have come out of this nowadays somewhat devalued discipline.

It would be depressing if we could see too much consistency in the work on display, since consistency and a recognizable house-style usually come from an over-dominant teacher and over-obsequious pupils. What the Royal College has always sought to do, to judge by this evidence, is not so much to tell its painters what to say, as to train them in the use of the languages available, and leave the choices up to them.

Some of the artists represented seem to have reached their characteristic style and discovered their characteristic subject-matter very early on: Patrick Caulfield's student *work, for example,* is immediately recognizable. There are others who have developed unrecognizably, notably those like Jack Smith who have passed over from kitchen-sink realism to abstraction.

Most of the juxtapositions, inevitably, show something between slavish consistency and total revolution. It is fascinating to observe Malcolm Morley developing from the mild, Camden-Towny atmospherics of "The Richmond Hill below the Wick" (1954) through the photographic style of "SS France" (1974) to the looser, more expressionist style of 1980's "Camels and Goats". Or to see the continuity of subject-matter and radical change of handling in John Bellany's work between 1967 and 1974. Or to guess at what can have happened to Bill Jacklin's work between his eccentric student assemblage "The Invitation Card" and his recent "Washington Square at Night": we probably would not imagine an intermediate bout of minimalism if we did not know. John Bratby and Carel Weight are astonishingly consistent, Allen Jones, R.B. Kitaj and David Hockney smoothly developing, Richard Smith and Bill Culbert totally changed.

All of this is both amusing and enlightening. But there are also genuine discoveries or rediscoveries. Among the most recent graduates, Peter Gough impresses with his "Mark the Riddled Corpses", a throwback to Paul Nash or early William Roberts, which is in no way merely pastiche. (Coincidentally, anyone curious about how Gough has developed since the Royal College can find out, until next Monday, from an impressive one-man show at the Watermans Arts Centre, Brentford.)

Of earlier graduates, it is particularly interesting to see again John Minton's "The Death of Nelson: after Daniel Maclise" (1952), a student copy transformed into a major work which boldly anticipates much that was going to happen later in Pop Art and even our current Pittura Colta.

It is also satisfactory to encounter, possibly for the first time, the work of such undeservedly forgotten painters as Charles Cyril Mahoney or Evelyn Dunbar or Leslie Cole (both the latter, perhaps significantly, found their own voice in the Second World War and seem to have been a bit adrift ever after). And the early section dealing with the birth of modernism in Britain is full of good things. A pity that the show as a whole comes over as more of a grab-bag than a clear statement about the Royal College in all its admirable diversity.

Some additional evidence on the subject may be gathered from the show of **Works on Paper by Contemporary Artists** at Marlborough Fine Art until April 22. At least six of the gallery artists featured, Frank Auerbach, *Bill Jacklin*, Andrzej Jackowski, R.B.Kitaj, Thérèse Oulton and Paula Rego, have been through the RCA and appear also in *Exhibition Road.*

It would be very difficult to imagine a more diverse bunch, united only in their remarkable talents and by the fact that they are all continuing markedly to develop. This is particularly notable in the case of Bill Jacklin, whose recent New York drawings, like "Mother and Child", have a new intensity and strength of design which bodes well for his upcoming major show in May, and Paula Rego, whose new drawings continue the mysterious, sinister explorations of human relations (sometimes calling on animal symbolism) which distinguished her last painting show.

It is also interesting to note that Thérèse Oulton, whom I had always thought of as an artist who needs a lot of space to realize her vision, can come across on a very small scale, and that Andrzej Jackowski, in his small watercolour sketches, shows an unexpected affinity with the painters of Die Brücke.

This week offers the last chance to see at the Albemarle Gallery a fascinating small show of drawings by **Jean Cocteau**, *which covers in 27* works his whole graphic career (surprisingly extensive for someone who was, after all, primarily an artist in words) from 1922 to 1962, and happily reminds us that he had more at his command that the rather stereotyped Orpheus profiles of his later years: witness the wonderfully crisp and expressive illustrations for his own novel *Thomas l'Imposteur.*

John Russell Taylor

Pupil's eye view of pupil: "The Neo-Cubist"(detail), by R.B. Kitaj at the Royal College of Art

The professor

LONDON DEBUTS

Andrew Shulman reversed the *usual order of events by* becoming professor of cello in London, after much orchestral experience, before giving a début recital.

This was consequently something of a testimonial at Wigmore Hall, the performance distinguished in particular by his musical perception in a work like Debussy's Cello Sonata, played with fastidious poetry of phrase and technique.

Here too the mutual response between the cellist and Christian Blackshaw at the piano was most apparent, and although their vigour and grace of phrasing lightened the sometimes dour earnestness of the seldom heard Sonata No 1 by Martinů, it could not affect the impressive qualities that lingered on from Debussy.

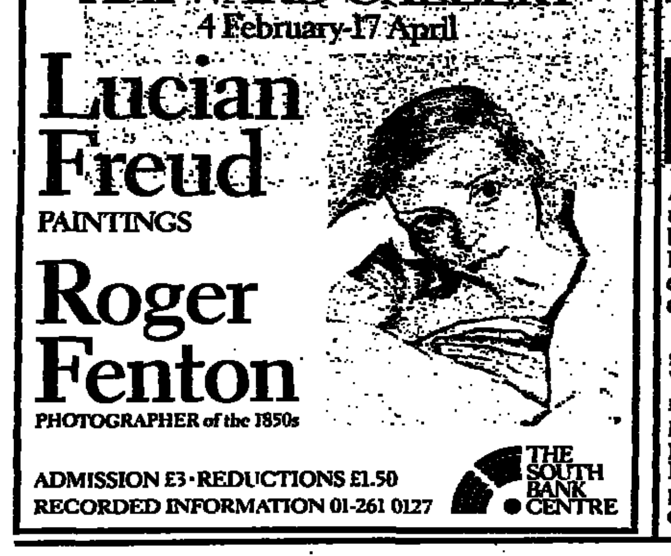
Time pressed for another débutant the same evening at St John's, Smith Square, where the Swiss pianist Jean-**François Antonioli** gave a polished account of Schumann's *Carnaval.* It verged on glibness in one or two pieces such as "Arlequin", and "Chopin" never acquired the *agitato* spirit that should go with its repeat, but otherwise — and in two actual Chopin encores — the pianist's expressive accomplishment was never in doubt.

Also from Switzerland, the **Racine/Molinari Duo** played flutes and clarinets, adding vocal effects and some foot-drumming for the ingenious textures of *Duo?* by one Weissberg (first names were in short supply, even those of the players).

The piece was one of several first performances which scared off a St John's audience, where another location for so engagingly eccentric a programme might have suceeded better.

Technique and communicative partnership were a constant fascination in performance, as much in the melodic intensity and harmonic relationships of Elliott Carter's *Esprit rude/Esprit doux* as in the whimsical humour and contrasts of timbre that animated the *Tanzmusik* by (I think Werner) Heider, composed just a month ago. The Duo merits a return visit in more favourable circumstances.

Noël Goodwin



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David Robinson reports on the Budapest showcase of the latest offerings from the socialist but increasingly free-spoken Hungarian film industry

Home truths

Of all the cinemas of socialist Europe, that of Hungary continues to maintain the strongest international profile. In part this has been achieved by a skilful P.R. operation: every year the entire production of the previous 12 months, successes and failures alike, is fearlessly put on show for foreign observers, in a national film week.

For those who have followed it assiduously over the twenty years since it was founded, the Budapest film week has provided an invaluable monitor of the ebbs and flows of cultural politics in the socialist world. Over the years Hungarian cinema has always tended to be the most outspoken in exposing internal problems; and so on the surface has been least affected by the knock-on effects of Soviet *glasnost*.

For all that, this year's crop of films proved the most interesting for a long time, even though feature production has dropped from the yearly average of 20 to around a dozen.

The numbers have been made up by documentaries; and a number of these are revolutionary in the frankness with which the errors and sins of recent history are attacked. Two films for instance deal with the labour camps of the Stalinist era — hitherto a subject only for the most thickly veiled allusion.

"We have to tell our children a new tale", say the brothers Gyula and János Gulyás, introducing their film **In Keeping with the Law.** In this they gather together a group of survivors of the camps set up in the Fifties on the Great Hungarian Plain. Many of them admit that this is the first time they have overcome the trauma to speak about the terrors of arrests and deportation without charges, and release without rehabilitation; about the humiliations and beatings and tortures.

The Poet György Faludy, made by the husband-and-wife team of Géza Böszörmény and Livia Gyarmathy, is a feature-length interview portrait of the writer, who has lived in exile for most of the period since he was released from one of the worst labour camps, at Recske, and who has been unsparing in his criticism of the present regime. Faludy's vividly related recollections of the camps are horrific and heroic.

Easily the most remarkable film of this year, however, is Magyar Stories, which vindicates its director Pál Schiffer's notion of the "documentary feature". Elements of pure documentary are assembled as the components of a historical fresco. Seven old men from the same village recall their lives in public affairs during the turbulent years since the war — years in which their individual fortunes rose and fell, when they took it in turns to be top dogs and the oppressed. From these seven insignificant lives, Schiffer composes an extraordinary, Tolstoyian epic of mid-20th century history, and the betrayal of ideals and illusions.

Zsolt Kézdi-Kovács' fiction film Cry and Cry Again breaks more new ground by intimating that the period of "consolidation" that followed the rising of 1956 was not the watershed that official history has generally claimed it to be.

Other documentaries examine the shortcomings of social services (Alajos Paulus' Maze), petty corruption (József Magyar's Our Little Affairs), the drug problem (*László Vitézy's* Floating Free). Another feature film, András Kovács' Rearguard looks critically at the effectiveness of recent electoral reforms, which make multiple representation for any parliamentary seat obligatory.

Hungary's current efforts at co-production fall rather flat. Pál Sándor, who had an international success with *Daniel Takes a Train*, stars Marcello Mastroianni and Hanna Schygulla in Miss Arizona. Photographed by one of the cinema's great cameramen, Elemér Ragályi, the film often achieves dazzling spectacle, but is betrayed by a rambling and inconsequential script.

Péter Gothár, whose dazzling *Time Stands Still* won a large cash prize at the first Tokyo Film Festival, has invested the money in Just Like America, a fantasy about a Hungarian tourist on the loose in New York and involved with gangsters, hippies, junkies and other figures of contemporary American romance. Muddled and weighed down with show-off visual effects, the film suggests that Gothár is as bewitched by the American dream as his hero.

Much more modest, György Sjomjas's Mr Universe captures more pithily the seductive fascination which America holds for Europeans. Two Hungarian dreamers trek to Hollywood to try to persuade Mickey Hargitay (onetime Mr Universe and husband of Jayne Mansfield) to star in their film. Sjomjas and his players have a wondeful off-the-wall comic style; and Hargitay, a living Hungarian success story, is charming.

Village chroniclers: four of the storytellers from *Magyar Stories*, the new Hungarian film by Bálint Magyar and Pál Schiffer

Who is Sylvia?

Taiwanese actress Sylvia Chang (below), in London for a season of her films, talks to **Anatol Lieven**

NICK ROGERS

"Superintendent Ho — one tough lady!", a massed chorus of Hong Kong police chiefs exclaim approvingly in the film *Aces Go Places*. At first sight, Superintendent Ho in real life is the least tough-looking figure one could possibly imagine.

Sylvia Chang, the Taiwanese actress whose role in this amazing comedy thriller confirmed her as one of the biggest stars of the overseas Chinese cinema, is very slight, beautiful in an unorthodox, almost childish way, diffident in manner, and looks much younger than her 35 years. Only a more decisive note in her voice when speaking on the telephone in Chinese, the occasional set of her jaw, and a slightly piratical grin recall the gun-toting superintendent.

The season of her films, at the National Film Theatre, concludes tonight with a special preview of her latest: *Sour Sweet*, which is to open in London in the autumn. Directed by Mike Newell (*Dance with a Stranger*) from the novel by Timothy Mo, this is Sylvia Chang's first film in English. The story, however, is set entirely within the world of the Chinese community in *London*.

Had there been problems rendering this world into the English language and in terms comprehensible to an English audience? Not really, she replied. "Mike simply asked us to do it our way." Concerning the language, there had been discussions of what would sound most natural, with some idiomatic expressions being dropped, despite their authenticity, for being "too much like Charlie Chan". It was in small things like this, she thought, that Bertolucci had missed the mark in *The Last Emperor*.

Her character in *Sour Sweet*, the budding matriarch of the family, is also a "tough lady", certainly much stronger than her bewildered husband. "But she is also a very traditional Chinese woman, very gentle on the outside, holding back," Chang observed. "Not on top of things. Tough on the inside — they have to be."

Had she herself tended to be cast for rather masculine roles? Not at all, she replied. Before taking the part of Superintendent Ho in Hong Kong, she had generally played soft romantic parts in Taiwanese melodramas. She has also acted in a number of films of the excellent Taiwanese new wave, dealing largely with the problems of an alienated and rootless youth (one such, Edward Yang's *That Day on the Beach*, has been part of the NFT season).

"Very cool, underplayed acting," she summed up. "I'd really like to do something that would release my energy. Last time I was in England I saw *Betty Blue*. That is what I call energy!"

Acting in both Taiwanese new-wave and Hong Kong commercial cinema, Sylvia Chang spans two very different worlds. Overseas Chinese popular cinema continues to be dominated by kung fu films of an undeniable exoticity and a ludicrous badness. The art films, on the other hand, do not begin to reach a mass audience.

She suggested that a major task facing directors in Hong Kong and Taiwan is to find a "centre point" between the two. That, however, is still far off, though she thought that another of her films, *Shanghai Blues*, might be a step in the right direction.

She speaks of the contemporary new-wave film-makers of mainland China with a certain awe, as people who have been shaped by experiences beyond her ken, and by the vast size of their country. A sense of the claustrophobic smallness of Taiwan was very apparent in her words: "Always raining. Very like England. Only more polluted."

Within Taiwan, however, Sylvia Chang has been able to carve out a place of distinction both as an actress and more recently as a director, particularly dealing with women's experiences in the new Taiwan. This has taken toughness, in a general cinematic atmosphere of such low quality.

"When I first started, we had to learn everything about acting for ourselves. I used to spend a lot of time in the dubbing room, just to watch films. When I saw a lot of Chinese films I felt embarrassed. So I wanted to make my own."

● *The NFT's Sylvia Chang season ends tonight with a screening of* Sour Sweet *at 6.30pm (information: 01-928 3232).*

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AUDIT COMMISSION

FOCUS

A SPECIAL REPORT

By Malcolm Brown

An eye on your money

Brent Town Hall in north-west London was sold as part of a £30 million package, then leased back by the council, an accounting device since outlawed by the Government

Looking for lower rates

David Cooksey, left, the commission's chairman, who is halfway through his three-year term of office, says his biggest task over the next 18 months is to ensure that more real savings are made by local authorities.

The commission has made a lot of cost-saving suggestions in its value-for-money studies — potential savings of £2 billion have been *identified by the commission's special*-studies unit in areas such as housing maintenance and purchasing and supply, and, taking those reports to local level, auditors *have already made £500 million of* "detailed recommendations" to individual authorities. But those recommendations now have to be chased up and turned into reality. The private sector has improved productivity tremendously over the last few years, says Mr Cooksey. Now *the public sector must do the same.*

***If they do make savings they have an option.* Mr Cooksey said: "Their policy having got better, value for money can be either to redirect the savings into other services to the population, *in which case they will be serving their communities better, or to reduce the cost to the* ratepayer.**

"If they got the same productivity improvements that the private sector has got, they could certainly reduce the rates."

To celebrate its fifth anniversary, the Audit Commission is today holding its first conference of local government in England and Wales at London's Queen Elizabeth Conference Centre

The Audit Commission is only five years old, but the *principle of a public* audit — an external check on how local rates are spent — goes back to the early 17th century when such compulsory rates were first levied.

Various systems of checking were devised, the most lasting being the District Audit Service, established in 1846 to audit the accounts of districts of the Poor Law Unions, the forerunners of the present system of local government in England and Wales.

In 1972 authorities were given the right to choose between the district auditors or a private firm of accountants. The system was all right so far as it went, but there was growing concern about its independence. How could the auditors be truly independent both of the authorities (which chose them) and of the Government, which financed the District Audit Service out of fees charged for the audits?

The Local Government Finance Act 1982 solved both problems. It set up the commission with the power to appoint external auditors. The commission, which is chaired by David Cooksey, chairman of Advent, a venture capital company, got an initial grant of working capital from the Department of the Environment, but is now self-financing, getting its income from the audit fees.

It has between 15 and 17 members, appointed by the Secretary of State for the Environment in consultation with the Welsh Secretary. Though the Secretary of State appoints them, they are not really answerable to him, but formally *at least*, to Parliament, before which the annual report must be laid.

Unlike the National Audit Office (the watchdog body which scrutinizes Whitehall and whose independence is guaranteed by its relationship with Parliament's Public Accounts Committee), the commission does not have any such clear-cut guarantee of independence.

There were a lot of protests when the commission was being set up that it would be no more than the Government's creature, set up to do the will of the then Secretary of State for the Environment, Michael Heseltine, and beat authorities on the head.

Cliff Nicholson, the commission's deputy controller, said: "No one in local government could believe that Michael Heseltine was going to establish something touching on them that wasn't to their detriment."

If that was the expectation, it was misplaced. Under Section 27 of the Local Government Finance Act, which set up the commission, it can look at central government's actions to see how they affect the authorities' ability to achieve value for money.

The first such report, which looked at the block grant system, was highly critical of central government. It said that the system for paying rate support grant to local government was so deeply flawed and subject to such frequent changes that it was preventing local government achieving value for money in its services.

Another report, on capital controls, was also very critical. Mr Nicholson commented: "Building on the first one, the second one really did cement the view in local government that the Audit Commission has got a mind of its own."

Who's who

Members of the Audit Commission for Local Authorities in England and Wales:

David Cooksey, chairman (Advent Ltd), Lady Elizabeth Anderson, Harry Axton (Brixton Estate plc), John Barratt, Sir Peter Bowness (London Borough of Croydon), Ian Coutts (County Hall, Norwich), John Gunnell (West Yorkshire Enterprise Board), Noel Hepworth (Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy), David Lees (GKN), Professor Andrew Likierman (London Business School), Eric Meade, Roy Shaw, Murray Stuart (Metal Box), Sir Robert Wall (Bristol City Council), Clive Wilkinson (Birmingham Repertory Theatre)

Roy Shaw, member

Lessons in the 'three Es' for local authorities

Best of public and private

Howard Davies, chief executive of the Audit Commission, which appoints external auditors for local authorities in England and Wales and tries to make sure that the authorities are giving (and getting) value for money, has all the right instincts for the job.

In previous incarnations he was a special adviser to Nigel Lawson on monetary policy and in the 1970s private secretary to the then British Ambassador to France, Sir Nicholas Henderson, a position from which he resigned after several months having decided it was "the most fatuous occupation you could imagine."

"I thought the embassy was over-staffed, under-worked and occupied in almost entirely futile tasks," says Mr Davies, who is not an accountant but a management consultant.

Mr Davies — official title, Controller of Audit — has been in the job just over a year, having succeeded John Banham, now director-general of the Confederation of British Industry. Both men are alumni of the management consultants McKinsey & Co and Mr Davies says that the commission's central organization in London is built very much in the McKinsey mould.

The commission's principal tasks are to appoint the auditors who audit the council's books and to try to ensure, through those auditors, that councils are keeping their eyes on the "three Es" — economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

So how has the commission, now five years old, fared? Mr Davies says that to make that judgement you need to take three figures into account.

- First, the potential saving of £2 billion which the commission has identified through a series of special studies of all sorts of services, from refuse collection to highways maintenance. That calculation is based on asking what would be the saving if every authority could be as efficient as the top quartile.
- Second, the way those numbers are really reflected at local level. "It would be wonderful, says Mr Davies, if everybody could be as good as the best quartile, but there are plenty of very genuine reasons that it cannot be the case. So what are the real potential savings which auditors can identify in their authorities *and how do they aggregate up?* Adding up the "detailed recommendations" made to individual authorities gives a total of just over £ 500 million.
- Third is what has actually been achieved. That comes to £80 million, says Mr. Davies, which compares with the £9 million a year it costs the commission to do its value for money work."

Mr Davies thinks the £80 million is rather small, but it is rising very fast.

He said: "From now on we will see much bigger numbers... I would expect the percentage of what we find locally that gets implemented over a five-year period will probably get to a good 50 to 60 per cent.

"On the evidence of what we've seen so far, we could expect that at least half of what we find locally gets implemented in a five-year horizon. So if that £500 million goes up to £800 million or £1 billion (which I think is very likely over the next two years), then by the end of the next five years it should be £500 million a year."

The commission and the auditors cannot in the end of course force councils to act on their value-for-money recommendations. They use publicity to try to chivvy authorities into line. Headlines such as Council Squanders Rates Money are the kind most councils try to avoid.

"People have wrestled with this notion for some time," said Mr Davies. "Should there be a penalty for wasting money? I don't think that there should be and in any case if there were I'm sure you'd want to lock up the people responsible for the *Concorde project before you* locked up people in local authorities."

‘Councils are now committed to bringing spending into line with income’

Howard Davies
Controller of Audit

Mr Davies talks, with all the fervour of a man who as a government adviser spent a lot of time working on privatization policy, of the 19th-century-founded District Audit Service being "liberated" from the Department of the Environment in 1983.

The commission, which appoints auditors from the District Audit Service and the private sector, is very non-Whitehall in outlook. It decides its own pay and conditions.

While it leans heavily towards the private sector — the proportion of audits carried out by private firms of accountants as opposed to the District Audit Service has doubled to 30 per cent since the commission was set up — Mr Davies does not believe it could ever be accused of being Thatcher's poodle.

The commission, he said, includes influential local Labour politicians who ensure that Labour views are taken into account.

But, more than that, the commission is actually about revitalizing the public sector rather than demolishing it. More than two-thirds of the auditing work is still done by the District Audit Service which is, by definition, in the public sector.

"What we've done is given a bit of the public sector a new lease of life, because it was a moribund organization in the Department of the Environment. They were under resourced, under-staffed. They'd never recruited a graduate in 20 years. There was no training apart from straightforward accounting training . . . So it's not by any means a totally privatizing sort of structure."

Mr Davies said the commission tries to bring together the best of both the public and the private sectors. The approach to working methods is drawn from the private sector as are pay and ideas on motivation. But that is balanced by an understanding of the importance of the public service *ethic* — an acceptance that the bottom line is not to be evaluated only in financial terms.

"We have to bring those two things together, because a straightforward totally hard-nosed management consultancy type approach to all these things would just not work, it would be totally counter-productive, the councils just wouldn't listen to you."

The commission must not only be non-political, it must be totally independent.

It does, of course, get involved in some political battles, although not directly or on any one side. It is there in the middle as others throw their missiles. It gets dragged in when others' battles start to involve local authorities doing things which are either financially imprudent or unlawful.

One of its prime concerns recently has been to bring a small clutch of authorities such as Brent, Hackney, Islington and Liverpool, which had been thumbing their noses at the system, back towards financial sanity.

Some authorities had gambled that a Labour government would be returned in the last election and would bail them out, said Mr Davies. He explained: "They were still, up to nine months ago, planning major new spending programmes — job-creation schemes, effectively — when there was every chance that they weren't going to have the money to do it.

"Since then there's been a massive change of direction in these councils and they are all now committed — say they are committed — to setting legal budgets and to bringing their spending into line with their income."

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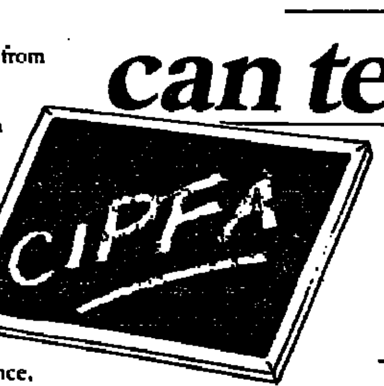

صكتا من الاجل

Sanction a council should fear most

The powers of the local government auditor range from the informal word in the ear of responsible officials that some part of their work needs to be tightened up to quasi-judicial powers which may ultimately lead to elected representatives being surcharged, ordered by the courts to make good money that has been unlawfully spent and even disqualified from elected office.

The most widely used power is the so-called "management letter," — a memorandum to members of the local authority summarizing any significant points that have arisen out of the audit.

This could cover anything from that year's value-for-money exercises — investigations undertaken at every authority in the country into some selected issues, such as rubbish collection or energy policy — to issues particular to the individual authority, like, for example, how a new computer is functioning.

One step up is the public-interest report. This introduces the sanction which public authorities perhaps fear most — adverse publicity.. The embarrassment that such reports cause locally can bring about swift action from authorities.

But there is a growing worry that wielding the big stick in this way may be a bit less *effective than* it used to be with at least a small group of "persistent offenders."

Cliff Nicholson, the commission's deputy controller, says: "If you were to take any one of the difficult London boroughs, you'd probably find that they've had a couple of public-interest reports each year for the last three years and tend to view them as 'another annoying bloody letter from the auditor'."

In fact, says Mr Nicholson, the commission has been concerned that some authorities are ignoring the public-interest reports, so it is writing to them to urge action.

The first two, both within the last couple of months, were Brent and Lambeth, whose accounting arrangements have been in disarray, says Mr Nicholson. The controller of the Audit Commission, Howard Davies, wrote to Brent warning it that it must take urgent action to put its finances in order.

"That received a lot of publicity and Brent are still smarting about that," says Mr Nicholson. "So the public interest is still a weapon."

These are essentially administrative powers, but the auditor also has a range of quasi-judicial powers.

- **Section 19 powers:** Under Section 19 of the Local Government Finance Act 1982 the auditor can, if he finds something in the accounts which he considers contrary to law, make an application to the court *for* a declaration that the item is contrary to law. If the court finds it is, it can order financial restitution by those responsible and even disqualification.
- **Section 20:** This is a duty rather than a power. The auditor, if he finds that there are losses caused by wilful misconduct, must certify the amount of those losses as being due from those responsible.

The prime examples of Section 20 action are the Lambeth and Liverpool cases where the auditor said the authorities were late in making their rates, which amounted to wilful misconduct and caused losses to the authorities. The auditors' certificates, in each case involving surcharges of more than £ 100,000, were upheld by the courts, and the individuals named in the certificate had to pay off the money and were disqualified.

These are the toughest powers the auditors have but a new Local Government Act gives them controversial powers to intervene much earlier.

At present, says Mr Nicholson, the auditors have powers to deal with illegality and losses caused by wilful misconduct, but those powers are "after the event." He adds: "If something unlawful happens, in the fullness of time, the auditor will pick it up and deal with it.

"These new powers enable the auditor to get in there at the time that it's happening and draw things to an early conclusion. So if it comes to the notice of an auditor that an authority is about to do something which will result in an unlawful item in the accounts, he can actually issue a prohibition order saying: 'You cannot do that'."

If, for example, the Inner London Education Authority, threatened with demise, were to try to fight its abolition, as the Greater London Council did, with a publicity campaign, it would be unlawful. But until now, the auditors could only act *post hoc*. With *the new powers, the auditor* would be able to intervene before the event.

Auditors, by and large, are living quite happily with theirroutine duties, but some are uncomfortable at times with the job's quasi-judicial aspects.

Tom Walls, director of public sector services at Price Waterhouse, which is now heavily involved in local authority auditing, is not sure that the quasi-judicial powers and duties lie happily with the auditors' other duties.

The auditor may establish a sound relationship with the client, which leads to a good audit, only to see that relationship badly damaged when he dons a quasi-judicial hat.

‘If something unlawful happens, the auditor will deal with it’

Cliff Nicholson
Deputy controller

Where savings were spotted

Among the special studies carried out by the commission in its first five years are surveys into:

- **Cash-flow management. The report showed that local government as a whole could save about £100 million a year by implementing such practices as issuing all rate demands by April 1, limiting the use of legal staff for debt collection, introducing computerization and paying employees monthly by bank transfer.**
- **Vehicle fleet management. This 1984 report concluded that savings of up to £140 million a year could be achieved through better vehicle management. It suggested, among other things: pooling vehicles between departments, using contract hire where it was cheaper than in-house provision, standardizing vehicles to one or two makes.**
- **Social services for the elderly. Though few elderly people rely on the local authority for social services care of the elderly still accounts for 45 per cent of social-services expenditure in the typical local authority.**

The commission, worried that the system would be unable to cope with the increasing demand which seems likely in the next few years, suggested a number of ways in which resources could be used much more effectively, allowing 15 to 20 per cent higher service levels to be supported within the present expenditure of about £1 billion a year.

The recommendations included better targeting (in four of the sample authorities half or more of spending on community services was allocated to those who obviously did not need it), and improving coordination between health, housing and social services departments on such things as sheltered housing.

School meals and the police: The commission's annual profile tells an authority how cost-effective such services are

Value for money on the rates

One of the main duties of the Audit Commission and its auditors is to promote value for money in local authority spending.

At the simplest level it provides each authority with an annual statistical profile. The profile looks at every service provided, from school meals to highway maintenance, and tells the authority whether it is better or worse than comparable authorities in the level of service provided and its cost.

This gives the local authority a feel for its overall performance and highlights areas that need special attention.

The commission also does what it calls "special studies." It chooses a number of areas of activity a year and examines them in detail to try and find out how the best authorities provide that service and what the less good authorities need to do to bring themselves up to scratch.

In its first five years it has looked at everything from non-teaching costs in secondary schools (where it reckons up to £ 250 million a year could be saved if every authority came up to the standard of the best) to refuse collection (potential savings of £20million to £30 million a year).

Once the special study has been published, the commission compiles a detailed practical guide for auditors who then, normally the year after the special study, go to their own authority, determine how it measures up against the best in that activity and recommend specific action.

There has always been a mix of rather downbeat subjects like energy conservation and surprisingly controversial ones like care of the elderly.

This year the commission's research ranges from the police and educational administration to the way a council's direct labour department handles building maintenance.

The studies are supposed to look at what commission officials call the "three Es" — economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

In the more technical areas, like vehicle fleet management, this is a relatively straightforward number-crunching exercise, but in the provision of services, like education or policing, the last of the "three Es", effectiveness, can be far more difficult to judge.

Cliff Nicholson, the commission's deputy controller, is very conscious of this difficulty. For many local authority services, he says, you cannot measure effectiveness with any precision against some sort of numerical scale.

There are large areas where even the professionals themselves are totally lost. (How, for example, do you measure the effectiveness of education?). But that ought not to be an insurmountable barrier.

"If you take the rather more simplistic, and I think more useful, line regarding effectiveness as to whether programmes are achieving their intended effects, then I think the commission and the auditors can actually do something. They can consider what was intended, how those considerations were arrived at, and they can consider what has been achieved."

Once the special study has been completed the auditors, equipped with their special audit guide, go to their individual authorities and try to encourage them to implement its findings locally.

"We second professionals on to our staff to do the study", says Peter Brokenshire, the commission's director of management practice, "so it then has credibility with the other professionals in the field who can be reassured that there isn't just an idiot accountant going out asking damn silly questions."

It can take three to five years for major recommendations to be implemented, says Stephen Evans, a senior manager in the special studies unit, but although the commission *is only* five years old, real savings are already being made.

Keeping the auditors happy

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Source: Audit Commission's management paper No.1, ***The Competitive Council***

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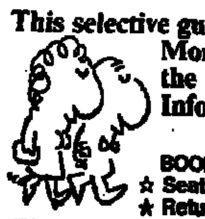

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

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FILMS

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BARFLY (18): Charles Bukowski wrote the script for this humorous, semi-autobiographical look at life in a seedy Los Angeles bar. With Mickey Rourke as a self-styled poet of the bottle and Faye Dunaway as his equally alcoholic companion. A first American film from the Swiss-French director Barbet Schroeder (99 min).
Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 2.35, 6.10, 8.50.
Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527). Progs 1.50, 4.05, 6.20, 8.40.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310). Progs 2.00, 4.05, 6.20, 8.35.
Cannon Premiere (01-439 4470). Progs 1.40, 3.45, 5.50, 8.05, 10.10.

CRY FREEDOM (PG): Richard Attenborough's bumper bundle of exciting spectacle and liberal sentiments; with Kevin Kline as journalist Donald Woods, drawn into the case of South African activist Steve Biko (Denzel Washington) (158 min).
☎ **Empire Leicester Square** (01-200 0200). Progs 2.00, 5.40, 8.40.
☎ **Cannon Fulham Road** (01-370 2636). Progs 1.25, 5.00, 8.30.

EMPIRE OF THE SUN (PG): J G Ballard's autobiographical novel about a British child in Shanghai caught by the invading Japanese in the Second World War, filmed by Steven Spielberg with great panache. With Christian Bale, John Malkovich and Nigel Havers (153 min).
Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2636). Progs 2.00, 4.30, 7.00, 9.25.
Cannon Shaftesbury Avenue (01-836 8861). Progs 1.10, 4.35, 7.55.
Screen on the Green (01-226 3520). Progs 1.55, 5.00, 8.00.
☎ **Warner West End** (01-439 0791). Progs 1.35, 4.55, 8.00.

■ **FATAL ATTRACTION (18):** A spurned lover (Glenn Close) takes revenge on Michael Douglas, his wife (Anne Archer) and family. Adrian Lyne directs this unsettling thriller (119 min).
Cannon Edgware Road (01-723 5901). Progs 2.30, 5.25, 8.20.
☎ **Cannon Fulham Road** (01-370 2636). Progs 2.15, 6.20, 9.15.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310). Progs 2.30, 5.00, 8.00.
☎ **Plaza** (01-200 0200). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30.

THE FOX AND THE HOUND (U): *Visually glum but dramatically taut* Disney cartoon from 1981, about the adventures of a fox cub (83 min).
Odeon Marble Arch (01-723 2011). Progs 1.45, 3.55, 6.05.

THE LAST EMPEROR (15): Bertolucci's gorgeously photographed epic tells the extraordinary story of Pu Yi, China's last imperial ruler, who lived to become a model Communist citizen. With John Lone, Peter O'Toole (162 min).
Odeon Leicester Square (01-930 6111). Progs 12.15, 4.00, 7.45.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 24

KNIPPERDOLLING
(c) A disciple of Bernhard Knipperdollinck of Münster, the German Anabaptist fanatic and polygamist active 1533-35; hence transferred to a telly-evangelist or any nutty fanatic.

DEFENERATION
(a) Usury, synonymous with *danism* and *feneration*, from the Latin *defenerare* to involve in debt, *faenus*, *fenus* interest, usury.

RES NULLIUS
(b) The legal jargon for property that does not and cannot belong to anybody; the Latin literally means "nobody's thing".

STRAW BOSS
(c) Any assistant chief, subordinate director, or 2-i-c, said to be from the organization of a thrashing crew, where the boss would superintend the grain, and his Number Two the straw; perhaps from the Dutch *stroodekkerbaas*.

MOONSTRUCK (PG): Should Cher play it safe and marry Danny Aiello, or follow her heart and go for his brother, Nicholas Cage? Norman Jewison took the Best Director prize at the Berlin Film Festival for this winning comedy-drama (nominated for six Oscars) (102 min).
☎ **Cannon Fulham Road** (01-370 2636). Progs 2.10, 6.10, 9.10.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310). Progs 1.55, 3.55, 6.15, 8.30.
☎ **Plaza** (01-437 1234). Progs 1.30, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45.

THE PRINCESS BRIDE (PG): William Goldman's send-up fairy-tale, filmed with insufficient charm by director Rob Reiner. With Cary Elwes as the hero out to rescue his beautiful princess (Robin Wright) (98 min).
Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 2.30, 5.55, 8.50.
Cannon Edgware Road (01-723 5901). Progs 1.45, 4.00, 6.10, 8.25.
Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527). Progs 1.40, 3.55, 6.10, 8.30.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310). Progs 2.10, 4.10, 6.20, 8.35.
☎ **Screen on the Hill** (01-435 3366). Progs 2.40, 4.40, 7.00, 9.00.

■ **WHITE MISCHIEF (18):** Glossy account of cuckoldry and murder among Kenya's "Happy Valley" set in the Forties, with Greta Scacchi, Joss Ackland and Charles Dance. Michael Radford directs (105 min).
Curzon West End (01-439 4805). Progs 2.00, 4.10, 6.20, 8.40.

■ **WISH YOU WERE HERE (15):** David Leland's poignant comedy about a teenage girl's sexual adventures in a drab seaside town. Marvellous playing by Emily Lloyd (92 min).
☎ **Odeon High Street Kensington** (01-602 6644). Prog 1.45, 4.00.
Cannon Panton Street (01-930 0631). Progs 2.45, 5.05, 7.25, 9.50.

WITHNAIL AND I (15): Knockabout British comedy about two out-of-work British actors trying to maintain sanity at the end of the Sixties. Written and directed by Bruce Robinson; with Paul McGann and Richard E Grant (107 min).
☎ **Odeon Haymarket** (01-930 2738). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.45.

THEATRE

LONDON

★ **BACK WITH A VENGEANCE:** Dame Edna Everage back again joshing the possums.
Strand Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (01-836 2660). Tube: Charing Cross. Mon-Fri 7.30-10.30pm, Sat 8-11pm, mat Sat 2.30-5.30pm, £6.50-£17.50 (D).

☆ **THE BEST OF FRIENDS:** Dramatized correspondence between Shaw, a Lady Abbess, and the director of the Fitzwilliam Museum. Brings Gielgud back to the West End stage. Until April 23.
Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 2663). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Tues-Sat 8pm, mat Sat 3pm, £5.50-£15.

☆ **BLUES IN THE NIGHT:** Hit black blues show, with Carol Woods, Sarah Woollett, Helen Gelzer and Peter Straker singing their hearts out in a sleazy Chicago hotel.
Piccadilly Theatre, Denman Street (01-437 4506). Tube: Piccadilly. Mon-Thurs 8-10pm, Fri and Sat 6pm and 9-11pm, £8.50-(D).

☆ **THE BROWNING VERSION/HARLEQUINADE:** Rattigan double bill: starry cast led by Dorothy Tutin and Paul Eddington.
Royalty Theatre, Portugal Street, WC2 (01-831 0660). Tube: Holborn. Mon-Sat 8-10.15pm, mats Wed 3-5.15pm and Sat 5-7.15pm, £7.50-£13.50.

☆ **THE COMMON PURSUIT:** Simon Gray play traces the fortunes of undergraduate friends; splendid cast led by Rik Mayall, John Sessions, Stephen Fry, John Gordon Sinclair.
Phoenix Theatre, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (01-836 2294). Tube: Tottenham Court Road. Previews today, Mon to Thurs 8-10.15pm; Fri and Sat 8.45-11pm; mats Fri and Sat 6-8.15pm. First night April 7, 7-9.15pm. Then as before. £6-£14.50.

☆ **CURTAINS:** Award-winning play transferring from Hampstead; great cast led by Annette Crosbie, Alfred Lynch and Ralph Nossek, touching, shot through with humour, though the subject is how to help granny die. Last week.
Whitehall Theatre, Whitehall, SW1 (01-930 7765). Tube: Embankment. Mon-Thurs 8-10.15pm, Fri and Sat 6-8.15pm and 8.45-11pm, £8.50-£13.50.

☆ **EXIT ENTRANCE:** Play by Aidan Mathews, a sell-out at Dublin's Abbey Theatre: an ageing couple review their lives, a younger couple look forward in hope.
Donmar Warehouse, 41 Earlham Street, WC2 (01-240 8230). Tube: Covent Garden. First night tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat 8.00pm; mats Wed and Sat 5pm, £5-£10.

☆ **HAPGOOD:** Puzzling new Tom Stoppard play; Spies, physics and misunderstandings; with Nigel Hawthorne, Roger Rees, Felicity Kendal and Iain Glen.
Aldwych Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (01-836 6404). Tube: Covent Garden. Mon-Fri 7.30-10.30pm, Sat 8-11pm, mats Wed 2.30-5.30 and Sat 4-7pm, £5-14.50.

☆ **PAUL ROBESON:** See caption.
Young Vic Theatre, 66 The Cut, SE1 (01-928 6363). Tube: Waterloo. First night tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat 7.30pm; mat Sat Apr 9, 4pm. £7.50.

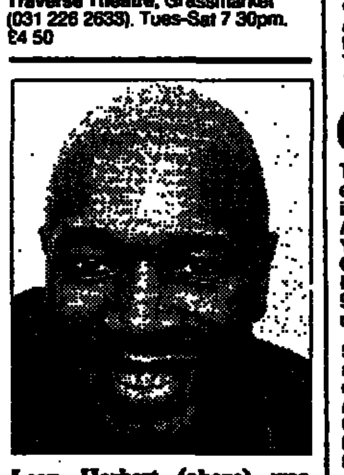
☆ **THE STORY OF KUFUR SHANNA:** Return of El-Hakawati, Palestinian group from the West Bank, with moving theatre piece about displacement. So much for the GLA sneer that this theatre ignores the modern world.
Almeida Theatre, Almeida Street, N1 (01-359 4404). Tube: Highbury & Islington. Preview March 29, 8pm. First night March 30, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat 8pm. Previews and Mons £4.50, Tues to Thurs £6.50; Fri and Sat £7.50.

LONG RUNNERS: ☆ **Beyond Reasonable Doubt:** Queens Theatre (01-734 1166). . . ☆ **The Business of Murder:** Mayfair Theatre (01-629 3036). . . ☆ **Cats:** New London Theatre (01-405 0072, cc 01-404 4079). . . ☆ **Chess:** Prince Edward Theatre (01-734 8951). . . ☆ **Follies:** Shaftesbury Theatre (01-379 5399). . . ☆ **42nd Street:** Drury Lane Theatre (01-836 8108/9/0). . . ☆ **Kiss Me Kate:** Savoy Theatre (01-836 8888). . . ☆ **Les Liaisons Dangereuses:** Ambassadors Theatre (01-836 6111, cc 01-836 1171). . . ☆ **Me and My Girl:** Adelphi Theatre (01-240 7913/4). . . ☆ **Les Misérables:** Palace Theatre (01-434 0909). . . ☆ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443). . . ☆ **Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244). . . ☆ **Run For Your Wife:** Criterion Theatre (01-930 3216). . . ☆ **Serious Money:** Wyndhams Theatre (01-836 3028). . . ☆ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (01-828 8665). . . ☆ **And Then There Were None:** Duke of York's Theatre (01-836 5122).

OUT OF TOWN

CAMBRIDGE: ★ **A Woman of No Importance:** A fallen woman and the Lord who done her wrong debate the fate of their offspring in Wilde's society drama.
Arts Theatre, Peas Hill (0223 352000), Mon-Sat 8pm, £6-£6.50, mat Sat 4.30pm, £4.

EDINBURGH: ☆ **The Straw Chair:** Edinburgh noblewoman in the 18th Century, exiled to the now deserted island of St Kilda. Opening of the Traverse's 25th season.
Traverse Theatre, Grassmarket (031 226 2633). Tues-Sat 7.30pm, £4.50.



Leon Herbert (above) was born in New York 32 years ago but has lived in this country since early childhood. A disco dancer and model before turning to acting, he has played Hippolytus opposite Eileen Atkins's Medea, Christ in the Coventry mystery plays, and was working on his own one-man show about Robeson when the Oxford Stage Company offered him the lead in Andy Rashleigh's play with music, *Paul Robeson: Song of Freedom*, opening tonight at the Young Vic (see listing).

Stepping out of the shadows

Liszt, the greatest pianist of the 19th century and perhaps of all time, said Alkan (above) was the only person in front of whom he was nervous of playing. Busoni, in some ways Liszt's successor, considered Alkan, with Chopin, Brahms, Schumann and Liszt, one of the five major piano composers since Beethoven. Alkan (real name Charles Henri Valentin Morhange) was the unsurpassable virtuoso with no audience, the great composer who was never performed. He led a reclusive life in Paris, with Chopin as a close neighbour at one stage. Those few who heard him, described his playing as "powerful, brilliant, severe", and performance of his larger works remains a scarifying task, for they include some of the most difficult music ever written for the piano. A central figure in the Alkan revival has been Ronald Smith, who has long performed the composer's most demanding pieces, lectured and written two books about him. At the Wigmore Hall today, on the 100th anniversary of his death, the composer will be shown in a new light as Smith joins violinist James Clark and cellist Moray Welsh in the first London performances of Alkan's main chamber works, the Duo, Cello Sonata and Trio. Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1, (01-935 2141), 7.30pm, £3-£6.

Max Harrison.

OPERA

☆ **SALOME:** Andre Engel's new production of Strauss's opera for Welsh National Opera. Sir Charles Mackerras conducts a strong cast led by Stephanie Sundine, Phillip Jowll and Robert Tear.
Grand Theatre, Swansea (0792 475715), 8 to 10.40pm, £5-£17.50.

☆ **IL SERAGLIO:** Small scale but effective travelling production by Opera 80. Tonight Stephen Barlow conducts.
Coronation Hall, Ulverston (0229 52299), 7.30 to 10.30pm, £4-£6.50.

☆ **BITTER SWEET:** Ian Judge's slick production of Noel Coward's masterpiece reaches Glasgow, with Ann Mackay, Rosemary Ashe and Martin Smith.
Theatre Royal, Glasgow, (041-331 1234), 7.30-10.30pm, £3-£12.50.

GALLERIES

THE 50S AND 60S: Part II of an exhibition of European paintings, including works by Matta, Appel, Dubuffet, Delaunay and Yves Klein.
Gimpel Fils, 30 Davies Street, London W1 (01-493 2488), Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30pm, Sat 10-1pm, free, until April 23.

SUSANA SOLANO: Large steel and wire mesh sculptures by a contemporary Spanish artist.
Anthony Reynolds Gallery, 37 Cowper Street, London EC2 (01-608 1516), Tues-Sun 11-6pm, free, until April 24.

SCULPTURE FROM ZIMBABWE: 60 stone carvings from a flourishing contemporary school of African Sculpture.
The Sculpture Court, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 4141), Mon-Sat 10-7pm, Sun 12-6pm, free, until May 30.

JOHN FISHER: Paintings of the villages and valleys of the Ardèche.
Francis Kyle Gallery, 9 Maddox Street, London W1 (01-499 6870), Mon-Fri 10-6pm, Sat 11-5pm, *free, until April 21*.

EDOUARD VUILLARD (1868-1940): A rare opportunity to see paintings, pastels, watercolours and drawings by a major French artist.
JPL Fine Arts, 26 Davies Street, London W1 (01-493 2630), Mon-Fri 10-5.30pm, free, until April 15.

CHARLES HOLDEN (1875-1960): Drawings and models tracing the career of the architect most famous for London University and Art Deco tube stations.
RIBA Heinz Gallery, 21 Portman Square, London W1 (01-580 5533), Mon-Fri 11-5pm, Sat 10-1pm, free, until April 23.

EXHIBITION ROAD: 120 works done since 1900 by staff and students of the RCA's painting department.
Royal College of Art, Kensington Gore, London SW7 (01-584 5020), Mon-Sat 10-6pm, Sun 2-6pm, £2, until April 24.

WOMEN'S WORKS: A special display of 70 of the 280 works by women in this gallery's permanent collection.
Walker Art Gallery, William Brown Street, Liverpool (051 207 0001), Mon-Sat 10-5pm, Sun 2-5pm, free, until April 15.

PAUL GOPAL-CHOWDHURY: New, looser paintings by a traditional figurative artist.
Benjamin Rhodes Gallery, 4 New Burlington Place, London W1 (01-434 1768), Mon-Fri 10-5.30pm, Sat 10.30-1.30pm, free, until April 23.

JAZZ

☆ **DOC CHEATHAM:** Distinguished American mainstream trumpeter, now well into his eighties but still blowing strong, makes a rare quartet appearance with the Johnny Parker Trio.
Pizza Express, 10 Dean Street, London W1 (01-439 8722) 9.45pm, £6.

☆ **THE IAINS:** Playing truant from Loose Tubes, Django Bates and Iain Ballamy lead their equally eccentric quartet.
Four Bars Inn, Castle Street, Cardiff (0222 374962) 8.30pm, £3.75.

☆ **GEORGIE FAME:** Somehow he has managed to weather the passing years without appearing either dated or ingratiating.
Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Frith Street, London W1 (01-439 0747) 9.30pm, £8 (members £2).

☆ **MARTIN TAYLOR:** A solo performance by Stephane Grappelli's urbane guitarist.
Caedmon Hall, Prince Consort Road, Gateshead (091 477 3478) 8pm, £3.

☆ **DON WELLER:** The robust tenor player appears at the head of his quintet.
100 Club, Oxford Street, London W1 (01-636 0933) 8pm, £4.

TELEVISION TOP 10

National top 10 programmes in the week ending March 26:

	BBC 1		BBC2
1	Eastenders (Tues/Sun) 21.10m	1	Moonlighting 5.50m
2	Eastenders (Thurs/Sun) 20.10m	2	M.A.S.H. 5.30m
3	Neighbours (Tues 13.28/17.36) 15.55m	3	Josey's Giants 5.15m
4	Neighbours (Tues 13.28/17.36) 15.25m	4	The Running Man 4.35m
5	Neighbours (Fri 13.30/17.36) 15.15m	4	Black Adder II 4.35m
6	Neighbours (Wed 13.28/17.36) 15.05m	6	Sherlock Holmes: House of Fear 4.30m
7	Neighbours (Thurs 13.28/17.37) 14.30m	7	Indelible Evidence 4.25m
8	All Creatures Great and Small 13.20m	7	The Black Shield of Falworth 4.25m
9	Holiday '88 12.80m	9	The Spanish Main 4.15m
10	Antiques Roadshow 12.45m	9	Gardener's World (Fri) 4.15m

	ITV		Channel 4
1	Coronation Street (Mon) Granada 16.05m	1	Treasure Hunt 7.85m
2	Coronation Street (Wed) Granada 14.85m	2	Brookside (Mon/Sat) 7.25m
3	Wish You Were Here (Mon/Wed) Thames 12.25m	3	Brookside (Tues/Sat) 6.90m
4	London's Burning LWT 12.05m	4	Heavenly Pursuits 5.55m
5	Bobby Davro's TV Weekly TVS 11.95	5	The War Wagon 4.40m
6	You Bet LWT 11.90m	6	Jesus of Nazareth 4.35m
7	Catchphrase TVS 11.55m	7	Hill Street Blues 4.00m
8	Inspector Morse Central 11.25m	8	The Cosby Show 3.95m
9	News (Sat 21.00) ITN 10.65m	9	Fifteen-to-One (Mon) 3.70m
10	Wednesday at Eight Thames 10.60m	10	Fifteen-to-One (Wed) 3.40m

Breakfast television: The average weekly figures for audiences at peak times (with figures in parenthesis showing the reach - the number of people who viewed for at least three minutes):
BBC1: *Breakfast Time*. Mon to Fri 1.4m (6.5m)
TV-am: *Good Morning Britain* Mon to Fri 2.9m (13m)

Source: Broadcasters' Audience Research Board

ROCK

THE TEMPTATIONS: Boasting two original members (Otis Williams and Melvin Franklin) and a catalogue of Motown gems like "Get Ready", "Ball Of Confusion" and "Papa Was A Rollin' Stone".
Hammersmith Odeon, Queen Caroline Street, London W6 (01-748 4081) 7.30pm, £7.50-£9.50.

☆ **THIN WHITE ROPE:** London debut for hard-rocking Californian roots band, appearing with poet John Cooper Clarke.
Sir George Robey, 240 Seven Sisters Road, London N4 (01-263 4581) 9pm, £3.50.

☆ **ROBERT PLANT:** Fronting a young band and plugging a respectable album, *Now And Zen*.
Royal Court, 1 Roe Street, Liverpool (051 709 4321) 7.30pm, £6.50-£7.50.

☆ **ASWAD:** New kings of British reggae, still at No.1.
Hummingbird, Dale End, Birmingham (021 236 4236) 8pm, £6.

☆ **PERE UBU/THE MEKONS:** Sterling double bill that recalls the heyday of Seventies avant garde new wave.
Town & Country, 9-17 Highgate Road, London NW5 (01-267 3334) 7.30pm, £6.

★ **THE MISSION:** Gothic rockers.
Rock City, 8 Talbot Street, Nottingham (0602 412544) 7.30pm, £6, for two nights.

CONCERTS

LUNCHTIME

☆ **THEDEEN THEMES:** The winner of many prizes, Torleif Thédeen plays Martinu's Variations on a Theme by Rossini and Brahms's rather grim Cello Sonata Op 38. The pianist is Clifford Benson.
Bishopsgate Hall, 230 Bishopsgate, London EC2 (01-247 6844), 1.05-1.50pm, £1.50.

EVENING

☆ **GUILDHALL STRINGS:** The Law Society's recitals, which are open to the public, continue with Rossini's String Sonata No 2, Mendelssohn's String Symphony No 4, Holst's St Paul's Suite and Tchaikovsky's Serenade, all heard from the Guildhall String Ensemble.
Law Society Common Room, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2 (01-242 1222), 6.30pm, £5.

★ **CHERUBINI PUBLISHED:** With the London Philharmonic Chorus and Orchestra Riccardo Muti gives the UK première of a Mass composed by Cherubini in 1818 but only published recently. First, however, comes Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 1 with Krystian Zimerman as soloist.
Festival hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 880), 7.30-9.50pm, £2.90-£15.

☆ **CHRISTODOULOS GEORGIADES:** An interesting programme from this pianist – Scriabin Etudes from Opp 2, 8, 42 and 65, Beethoven's somewhat neglected Op 54 Sonata, a Sonatina by Skalkottas, Chopin's Tarantella and the UK première of Constantinides's Dances from the Greek Islands.
Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800), 7.30pm, £3-£6.

OTHER EVENTS

STRADIVARI AT SOTHEBY'S: Earlybirds can hear Alexa Wilson, a student from the Royal College, playing *A Lark Ascending*, written by Vaughan Williams and dedicated to Marie Hall, the great English violinist who first performed the piece in 1920 on this Stradivari, "the Marie Hall". Made in 1709, it is expected to make over £400,000 in the Sale of Musical Instruments this Thursday.
Sotheby's 34-35 New Bond Street, London W1 (01-493 8080), 10am, free.

COGGES MANOR FARM MUSEUM RE-OPENING: The Oxfordshire museum of farming and rural life, set in the Edwardian period, reopens today for the summer season. The museum contains an outstanding collection of listed buildings, walled garden, an animal farm, history and nature trail, and visitor centre. Demonstrations in the 13th century restored manor house will be held on most days throughout the season, beginning today with Edwardian cookery.
Cogges Manor Farm Museum, Church Lane, Witney, Oxfordshire (0993 72602) today until Nov 6, Tues to Sun 10.30am-5.30pm, £1.60, child £1.20.

FREELANCE 88: Primarily a fair for freelance illustrators, graphic designers, photographers and fine artists, but of interest to anyone wishing to know more about, or thinking of, a career in any of the disciplines. Bar and light refreshments.
The King's Cross Hall, Camden Centre, Bidborough Street, London WC1 (information 01-482 2842), today, tomorrow, Thurs 12 noon to 7pm.

TALKS

THE PASSION: Lecture by three guest speakers.
National Gallery, Room 14, Trafalgar Square, London, WC2 (01-839 3321), 1pm, free.

TATE LECTURE: Simon Wilson on the Pre-Raphaelite brotherhood – tales of love, death and religion.
Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (01-821 1313), 1pm, free.

WALKS

JEWISH GHETTO ALLEYS AND OLD COCKNEY QUARTER: meet Whitechapel tube, 11am, £3.

LEGAL LONDON: LAWYERS, COURTS AND OLD BAILEY: meet Temple tube, 11.15am, £3.

POLITICAL LONDON, GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENT: meet Embankment tube, 2pm, £2.50

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

RESPONSE: Two weekends of contemporary music with London Sinfonietta and Arc Dance Company, with concerts, talks, films and workshops, including premières by Holliger (*Scardanelli Zyklus*), Philip Glass (*Company*, in revised version), Xenakis, Takemitsu, Denisov and Knussen.
Queen Elizabeth Hall and **Purcell Room**, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191) (01-928 8800 credit card). May 6-8 and 20-22. Postal booking open. Personal/phone booking from April 5/6.

ITALIAN COMEDY: THE GOLDEN AGE. Film season reflecting changing social moods in Italy from poverty of post-war years of 1950s, through swinging 60s, to disillusion and materialism of 70s and 80s.
National Film Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3232). General booking now open for April.

ALDEBURGH FESTIVAL: General booking opens today for 41st festival (June 10-26), including Britten's first opera *Paul Bunyan*, Tchaikovsky's opera *Iolanta* by Britten-Pears school, and concerts at Snape Maltings and Suffolk churches.
Aldeburgh Foundation, High Street, Aldeburgh, Suffolk (072 885 2935).

LAST CHANCE

BILLY BUDD: Last performance *this season of Tim Albery's ENO* production, with Thomas Allen, Philip Langridge and Richard Van Allan. Tonight at 7.30.
Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161) (01-240 5258 credit cards).

CHAIM STEPHENSON: Liverpool-born artist, who learned sculpture on a kibbutz, uses bronze, wood, terracotta and metal to depict biblical and animal themes.
Sternberg Centre for Judaism, 80 East End Rd, London E3 (01-346 2288). Ends today.

IDENTITY: Hangings, crafts, poetry, video, painting, drawing and sculpture by women from Tower Hamlets, both individuals and groups. Works for sale. Ends Sunday.
Chisenhall Gallery, 64 Chisenhale Rd, London E3 (01-981 4518).

Theatre: Jeremy Kingston; **Films:** Geoff Brown; **Concerts:** Max Harrison; **Opera:** Hilary Finch; **Rock:** David Sinclair; **Jazz:** Clive Davis; **Dance:** John Percival; **Galleries:** David Lee; **Walks and Talks:** Penny Osborn; **Other Events:** Judy Froshaug; **Bookings:** Anne Whitehouse.

ENTERTAINMENTS

CONCERTS

BARBICAN HALL 01-638 8891/01-628 8795 Ton't 7.45 ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Christopher Seaman (cond) Abdel Rahman el Bacha (piano).

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM S 836 3161 CC 240 5258. ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA. Ton't 7.30 (last perf) Billy Budd. Tomor 7.00 The Magic Flute.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 01 240 1066/1911. Stdby info 01 836 6903 S CC 65 amphi seats avail on the day. Special Easter prices. Good seats avail Sat 2 Apr £10, Mon 4 Apr £20. Ton't 7.30 THE ROYAL BALLET Serenade/Bugaku/'Still Life' at the Penguin Cafe. Ballet casting info 01 240 9815. Tomor 7.30 THE ROYAL OPERA Tosca.

SADLER'S WELLS 278 8916 First Call CC 24 hr 7 day 240 7200. NORTHERN BALLET THEATRE From 19-26 Apr Prog 1: A SIMPLE MAN. From 28-30 Apr Prog 2: COPPELIA.

THEATRES

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ROGER REES in
HAPGOOD
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ROSEMARY HARRIS RAY McANALLY
THE BEST OF FRIENDS
by HUGH WHITEMORE
Directed by James Roose-Evans
Tues to Sat 8pm. Sat mat 3pm
DUE TO OVERWHELMING DEMAND - SEASON EXTENDED BY 3 WEEKS TO SAT 23 APRIL

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Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.0
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Lyric by RICHARD STILGOE
Directed by TREVOR NUNN
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DOMINION THEATRE 580 8845 580 9562 Tel CC bkgs FIRST CALL 24hr 7 day 836 2428 NO BKG FEE CC 741 9999 or 379 4444 (no bkg fee) Grps 930 6123
DAVE CLARK'S
TIME
THE ULTIMATE EXPERIENCE
THE PORTRAYAL OF 'AKASH' BY
LAURENCE OLIVIER
Mon-Fri 7.30 Sat 4 & 8.15
SPECIAL CONCESSIONS at £7 all perfs except Fri & Sat eves for OAP's, UB40's, students & under 16's avail from 3pm (Sat from 12 noon) Must end April 16
LAST 3 WEEKS

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL Box Office & CC 01 836 8108 01 240 9066/7 Open All Hours 01 379 4444 (no bkg fee) First Call 24hr 7 day cc bkgs on 01 240 7200 (no bkg fee)
David Merrick's
42ND STREET
A SHOW FOR ALL THE FAMILY
Winner of all the best Musical Awards for 1984
voted BEST MUSICAL STANDARD DRAMA AWARDS
voted BEST MUSICAL LAURENCE OLIVIER AWARD
voted BEST MUSICAL PLAYS & PLAYERS LONDON THEATRE CRITICS AWARD
Evgs 8.0 Mats Wed 3.0 Sat 5.0 & 8.30 Reduced price mat Weds Students and OAP's standby Group Sales 930 6123
4TH GREAT YEAR

DUKE OF YORKS 836 5122 cc 836 9837, 379 4444/240 7200/ 741 9999 Groups 930 6123
AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
AND THEN THERE WERE NONE
"QUITE IRRESISTIBLE" D Mir
"TRUE COMEDY THRILLER" LBC Eves 8 Mats Thu 3 Sat 5

FORTUNE THEATRE 836 2238 cc with bkg fee First Call 24hr/7 days 240 7200/CCTB 741 9999/Open All Hours 379 4444 Group Sales 930 6123 Eves 8.00, Wed mats 3.00 Sats 5.30 & 8.30
ORISDALE LANDEN
HILARY TINDALL and JEREMY BULLOCH in
DANGEROUS OBSESSION
By N.J. Crisp
"HOLDS YOUR NERVES AT GUNPOINT" Daily Mail
OVER 100 PERFS!

GARRICK 379 6107 CC 240 7200 24 hrs 7 days No bkg fee Grps 240 7941
NOEL COWARD'S
EASY VIRTUE
JANE HOW
ZENA WALKER RONNIE STEVENS
From 13 April Now Booking

GLOBE THEATRE 01 437 3667/741 9999. First Call 836 2428 (bkg fee).
MAGGIE SMITH
MARGARET TYZACK
in
LETTICE AND LOVAGE
a new comedy by PETER SHAFFER
with RICHARD PEARSON
directed by MICHAEL BLAKEMORE
Evgs 7.45, Sat Mat 3.00
Perfs on Good Friday and Easter Monday few seats still available

GREENWICH THEATRE 01-858 7755, cc 01 853 3800 (no bkg fee) Evenings at 7.45, Sat mats 2.30 THE MUSICAL COMEDY MURDERS OF 1940 by John Bishop.

HAMPSTEAD 722 9301 Prevs from 31 Mar at 8 pm ARTHUR MILLER'S DANGER:MEMORY!

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL Box Office & cc 01-930 9832
MICHAEL HORDERN IRENE WORTH
"A comic gem" Gdn. "A glorious performance" D Tel
and MICHAEL DENISON
"...Nimble and Mercilessly Perceptive" S. Times
in
YOU NEVER CAN TELL
by Bernard Shaw
Toby Robertson's "splendidly choreographed production" D.Tel
Evgs 7.30 Mats Weds & Sats 3.00
First Call 24hr 7-day cc bkgs 01-240 7200 (bkg fee) Open All Hours 01-379 4444 (bkg fee) Group Sales 01-930 6123

HER MAJESTY'S Haymarket 839 2244 CC 24hr 379 4444 (bkg fee) 240 7200 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930 6123
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
DAVE WILLETTS
CLAIRE MOORE MICHAEL BALL
Jan Hartley Morris plays Christine at certain performances
Directed by HAROLD PRINCE
Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3
Bookings now available Oct 3 '88 - April 1 '89 Postal applications ONLY at Theatre

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH 01 741 2311 (01 240 7200 cc 24hr 7 day Bkg fee for Faust only) Prevs from Wed. Goethe's FAUST Pt1 Eves 7.30pm, Sat Mat 2.30pm. Opens 6 April 7pm Opens Dr rehearsal Pt2 7 April. Pt2 prevs from 7 April. STUDIO: Eves 8pm William Rushton in Tales From A Long Room and Uncle Mort's North Country by Peter Tinniswood Sat mats 2 & 9 April 4 pm

LYRIC THEATRE 01-437 3686 / 01-734 5166 Reduced price prevs from May 5. Opens May 9 at 7.0
EMERALD CITY
"A sparkling new David Williamson comedy."
Eves 8.0 Mats Thurs 3.0 Sats 5.0 & 8.30. Open All Hours 01-379 4444 CCTB 01-741 9999 (No Bkg Fee). First Call 24hr 7 day cc bkgs 01-240 7200 (Bkg Fee) Group Sales 01-930 6123.

LYRIC W1 437 3686/734 5166
RUSS ABBOT
ONE FOR THE ROAD
By Willy Russell
Evgs 7.30 Fri & Sat 6.00 & 8.40
1st Call 24 hr 7 day cc 240 7200. CCTB 741 9999 (No Bkg Fee) Grps 930 6123.
LAST 4 WEEKS!

MAYFAIR 629 3036
THE BUSINESS OF MURDER

MERMAID THEATRE 01-236 5568/638 8891 cc 741 9999 & cc (with bkg fee) 240 7200
EMILE ZOLA'S
NANA
"REEKS OF SEX & PLEASURE" T. Out. Eves 7.30, Thur mat 2.30 Sat 4.30 & 8.00 THUR & SAT MAT ALL SEATS £6.

NATIONAL THEATRE SE1 Box Office & CC 01-928 2252 Agencies. bkg fee: 379 4444/240 7200/741 9999
NATIONAL THEATRE
OLIVIER
Ton't 7.15, Tomor 2.00 & 7.15 'TIS PITY SHE'S A WHORE by John Ford.
LYTTELTON
Ton't 7.45 WAITING FOR GODOT by Samuel Beckett. Tomor 7.45 CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF.
COTTESLOE
Ton't 7.30, Tomor 2.30 & 7.30 A PLACE WITH THE PIGS by John Ford. Cheap seats days of perfs all theatres from 10am.

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 405 0072 CC 404 4079 OPEN ALL HOURS 379 4444. Tkts from W H Smith Travel Branches. Eves 7.45 Tue & Sat 3.00 & 7.45
THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/T S ELIOT MUSICAL
CATS
Group Bookings 01 930 6123 or 01 405 1567.
NOW BOOKING TO OCT 29

OLD VIC 928 7616 CC 261 1821 cc (with bkg fee) 240 7200/379 4444/741 9999 Eves 7.30, Wed Mats 2.30 Sats 4.00 & 7.45
THE TUTOR
By J M R Lenz, adapted by Brecht directed by Angelika Hurwicz
LAST 2 WEEKS!

PHOENIX THEATRE 01 836 2294 credit cards 240 9661/741 9999 & 24 hr cc with bkg fee 379 4444/240 7200.
RIK MAYALL JOHN SESSIONS
STEPHEN FRY JOHN GORDON SINCLAIR
SARAH BERGER PAUL MOONEY
THE COMMON PURSUIT
written and directed by SIMON GRAY
Now Previewing. Eves 8.00, Fri & Sat 6.00 & 8.45 (7 April at 7pm)
ALL PREVIEWS - £1.00 OFF in person from the Box Office after 10am
ON DAY OF PERFORMANCE!

PALACE THEATRE 434 0909 24hrs cc 379 4444 (bkg fee) 240 7200 (bkg fee) Groups 930 6123
"THE SHOW OF ALL SHOWS" Newsweek
Winner of 8 Tony Awards inc BEST MUSICAL
LES MISERABLES
THE MUSICAL SENSATION
Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30
Latecomers not admitted until the interval
"FIGHT TO GET A TICKET" LBC
NOW BOOKING TO SEPT 24

PICCADILLY 437 4506 CC 379 6565/4444 Open All Hours/ 741 9999 Grp 836 3962.
"A MARVEL OF A SHOW" Whats On
BLUES IN THE NIGHT
LOW PRICE SHOWS FRI & SAT
6.30 Mon-Thu 8, Fri-Sat 6.30 & 9

PLAYHOUSE 839 4401 CC First Call 836 2428 741 9999/379 4444 no bkg fee Grps 240 7941 Eves 8pm, Sat 5.15 & 8.15pm No Perf 1 April
"Ruth Madoc gives an extravagantly extrovert performance" Eve Std
in
NITE CLUB CONFIDENTIAL
The "New" '50s Musical Comedy
"Terrific ...Great Fun" Observer
FINAL WEEK

PRINCE EDWARD 734 8951 ALL tel cc bkgs FIRST CALL 24 hour 7 day on 836 3464 Group Sales 930 6123.
Eves 7.30 Mats Thurs & Sat 2.30
BEST MUSICAL 1986 Drama Magazine
CHESS
"A GRAND MASTER OF A SHOW" Newsweek

PRINCE OF WALES 839 5989
GEMMA CRAVEN EMILE BELCOURT
RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S
SOUTH PACIFIC
"WALL-TO-WALL SHOW STOPPERS" D Exp
"TERRIFIC" Times
"A Great Musical" S Times
Monday - Saturday 7.30
Matinees Wed & Sat 2.30
Credit Cards 24 hrs 01 836 3464
Group Sales 930 6123

QUEENS 734 1166/0261/0120 cc 741 9999/379 4444 24hr 7day cc 836 2428 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930 6123
FRANK FINLAY
GWEN WATFORD
BEYOND REASONABLE DOUBT
"BRILLIANT" PA
"A TRIUMPH" D Exp
"A SMASH HIT" The People
by JEFFREY ARCHER
DAVID LANGTON JEFFRY WICKHAM
ANDREW CRUICKSHANK
Directed by DAVID GILMORE
Mon-Fri 8 Mat Thu 3 Sat 4.30 & 8.0 SEATS AVAILABLE AT SOME PERFS.

RAYMOND REVUEBAR CC 734 1593 Mon-Sat two shows nightly 8pm & 10pm. Paul Raymond presents THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA The Greatest Erotic Entertainment in the West End.

ROYAL COURT S CC 730 1745. CC Prevs from 7 Apr BLOODY POETRY by Howard Brenton Dir by Max Stafford-Clark.

ROYALTY WC2 01 831 0660 CC 01 240 7200 (bkg fee).
SIX WEEKS ONLY -UNTIL 30 APRIL
Eves 8, Mats Wed 3, Sat 5
"The most distinguished and most moving performance in London at the moment" S Times
PAUL EDDINGTON
"in towering form"
and
DOROTHY TUTIN
"equally fine" S Express
in
"THE ROYALTY THEATRE COMPANY'S magnificent production of TERENCE RATTIGAN'S masterpiece" Ind
THE BROWNING VERSION and HARLEQUINADE.
co-starring
JEAN ANDERSON
JOHN DUTTINE
ANNA QUAYLE
JACK WATLING
"A super double-bill I implore you to see" S Exp

SAVOY THEATRE 01-836 8888 CC 379 6219/836 0479 CC (with bkg fee) 379 4444/240 7200/741 9999 Groups 930 6123
Eves 7.30, mats Wed & Sat 3.00
"THE BEST MUSICAL IN LONDON" N Y Post
Royal Shakespeare Company in
KISS ME KATE
with
JAMES SMILLIE NICHOLA McAULIFFE
TIM FLAVIN
ANDREE BERNARD
AWARD WINNING MUSICAL

STRAND 836 2660 cc 836 4143/5190 1st Call 24hr 836 3464 (bkg fee) Groups 930 6123
BARRY HUMPHRIES
"THE GREATEST COMIC ENTERTAINER OF OUR TIME" Ind
in
BACK WITH A VENGEANCE!
"BY FAR THE FUNNIEST NEW SHOW OF THE YEAR.. PHENOMENAL, EXPLOSIVE AND ENTERTAINING" Obs
Mon-Fri 7.30 Sat 2.30 & 8
Season extended to July 9

STRATFORD UPON AVON Box Office & cc (0789) 295623 or cc (with bkg fee) First Call 01 240 7200 (RST only). 1988 RSC SEASON OPENS THIS WEEK! Royal Shakespeare Company at RST. Much Ado About Nothing (from 7 Apr), Macbeth (28 Apr) Tempest (7 Jul). Swan Theatre Constant Couple Tomor, Thurs, Fri, Sat 7.30, Mat Sat 1.30, Plain Dealer (from 20 Apr) Man of Mode (6 Jul), Restoration (7 Sept). The Other Place, Across Oka (13 Apr), King John (4 May), Stop - Over Pkg: Meal/ticket hotel (0789) 414999.

ST MARTIN'S 01-836 1443. Special CC No. 379 4444. Evgs 8.0 Tues 2.45, Sat 5.0 and 8.0
36TH YEAR OF AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
THE MOUSETRAP

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE 379 5399 CC 741 9999 (bkg fee) 24hrs cc 379 4444 (bkg fee) 240 7200 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930 6123
BEST MUSICAL
Laurence Olivier Awards 1987
Drama Magazine Awards 1987
Plays & Players Award 1987
Standard Drama Awards 1987
BEST MUSICAL
DIANA RIGG JULIA McKENZIE
DANIEL MASSEY
DAVID HEALY
& DOLORES GRAY
FOLLIES
The Sondheim/Goldman Musical
"A TRULY FANTASTIC EVENING" F.T.
Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.
APPLY DAILY FOR RETURNS
Box office phones open 10am-9pm. Discounts available for groups for Wed Mats.

VAUDEVILLE 836 9987/5645
PAULINE COLLINS in
SHIRLEY VALENTINE
By Willy Russell
Directed by Simon Callow
"Go to the Vaudeville at the first possible day in your diary" D. Mail
Evgs 7.30 Mats Wed 2.30 1st Call 24hr 7 day cc 836 2428 (bkg fee) CCTB 741 9999 (no bkg fee)
LAST 5 WEEKS

VICTORIA PALACE Box Office & cc 834 1317 cc 741 9999 1st Call 24hr 7 day 240 7200 (bkg fee) Open All Hours 379 4444 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930 6123.
ROBERT HARDY & VIRGINIA McKENNA
in
WINNIE
Songs...Laughter...& Victory
Prevs from May 19

WESTMINSTER 834 0283 CC 834 0048 741 9999 (no bkg fee) 240 7200 24 hrs 7 days (bkg fee) 379 4444 Open All Hrs (bkg fee) Tues Sat 7.45 Wed & Thurs Mat 2.30 Sat Mat 3.00
NO PERF GOOD FRIDAY
"EXQUISITE REVIVAL... TRIUMPH" D.Mail
THE MIRACLE WORKER
"SPELL-BINDING" FT
"Exceptional performances from ... Beryl Reid and Hildegard Neil" Standard "SUPERB" S.Tel

WHITEHALL 01-930 7765/839 4455 CC 379 6565/4444/240 7200/741 9999 No bkg fee
JASON CONNERY NICKY HENSON
ANDREW CASTELL in
R C SHERRIFF'S classic play
JOURNEY'S END
Dir Justin Greene
Red price prevs from Apr 11. Evgs 7.45 Mats Thu, Sat 3.00 (Apr 19 at 7.00)

WHITEHALL 01 930 7765/839 4455 cc 379 6565/741 9999/379 4444/bkg fee 240 7200 Grps 836 3962
THE NEW TRIPLE AWARD WINNING COMEDY
"AS FINE A PLAY AND PLAYING AS YOU WILL FIND THIS SIDE OF PARADISE" Daily Mail
CURTAINS
by Stephen Bill
"EXPLOSIVELY FUNNY" Times
Eves 8pm, Fri & Sat 6 & 8.45pm
LAST WEEK!

WYNDHAM'S 836 3028 CC 379 6565/4444 (no bkg fee) and 741 9999/240 7200 (bkg fee) Groups 836 3962.
BEST PLAY
Olivier Awards 87
And 4 other major Awards
Royal Court production of Caryl Churchill's
SERIOUS MONEY
Directed by Max Stafford-Clark
Mon to Thu 8.0 Fri 3.0 & 8.15, Sat 4.0 & 8.15

ART GALLERIES

BARBICAN ART GALLERY Level 8 Barbican Centre London EC2 01-638 4141 ext 306 KARSH plus HENRY PEACH ROBINSON photographs. Until 24 Apr Mon-Sat 10am - 6.45pm Sun & Bank hols 12-5.45pm Adm £3 conc £1.50.

CRANE GALLERY 171a (1st Flr) Sloane St, SW1 01 235 2464. (3 mins Harrods) English & American Naive Paintings, Country Furniture, Quilts, Weathervanes, Wool Pictures, Samplers, etc. Daily 10-6, Sats 10-4.

FISCHER FINE ART 30 King St, St. James's. 01-839 3942. DAVID BOMBERG - Major paintings and drawings. Until 8 April. Mon-Fri 10-5.30, Sats 10-12.30.

JPL FINE ART 26 Davies St, London W1 Tel: 01-493 2630. Edouard VUILLARD - Paintings, Pastels, Watercolours and Drawings. 16 Feb-15 April Catalogue available.

LEGER, 13 Old Bond St "THE FITCH COLLECTION" Major English Watercolours. Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30 01 629 3538

MALL GALLERIES (Nr Admiralty Arch) SW1 01 930 6844 ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATERCOLOURS EXHIBITION. Works for sale. Open throughout Easter.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, PICCADILLY, W1. 01-734 9052. Open daily 10-6 inc. Sun. (reduced rate Sun. until 1.45) (Closed Good Friday).
OLD MASTER PAINTINGS FROM THE THYSSEN BORNEMISZA COLLECTION. (including works by Duccio, Durer, Holbein, El Greco, Rubens, van Dyck, Watteau, Goya).

ZAMANA GALLERY, 1 Cromwell Gdns, SW7 584 6612. THE MARCO POLO EXPEDITION - A Journey across the Silk Road. Until 10 April. Tue-Sat 10-5.30, Suns 12-5.30.

CINEMAS

CHELSEA CINEMA Kings Road SW3 351 3742 John Huston's THE DEAD (U) 1.40 3.30 5.20 7.15 9.10. Ends Thurs. STARTS Fri 1 April Stephane Audran in BABETTE'S FEAST (U).

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St 499 3737. Yves Montand in MANON DES SOURCES (PG) Film at 1.15 (not Sun) 3.30 6.00 8.30. "It has the mark of a classic" Times.

CURZON PHOENIX Phoenix St, off Charing Cross Rd 240 9661 ALEC GUINNESS & DEREK JACOBI in LITTLE DORRIT (U) Part 1: Mon, Wed, 12.30; Fri, Sat, Sun, Tues, Thurs, 4.00; Fri, Mon, Wed 7.30. Part 2: Fri, Sat, Tues, Thurs 12.30; Mon, Wed 4.00; Sat, Sun, Tues, Thurs, 7.30.

CURZON WEST END Shaftesbury Avenue W1 439 4805. GRETA SCACCHI & CHARLES DANCE in WHITE MISCHIEF (18) Film at 2.00 (not Sun) 4.10 6.20 8.40.

LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE (930 5252) SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER ME (15) Sep progs Daily 1.10 3.40 6.10 8.45 All progs bookable in advance. Credit Card Hot Line (Access/Visa/AmEx) 930 7615. 24 hour service.

LUMIERE CINEMA St Martin's Lane WC2 379 3014/836 0691 Stephane Audran in BABETTE'S FEAST (U) 2.10 4.20 6.35 8.50 Ends Thurs. STARTS Fri 1 Apr Bertolucci's THE LAST EMPEROR (15) EXCLUSIVE 70mm DOLBY /STEREO PRESENTATION. SEATS BOOKABLE ACCESS/VISA.

MINEMA 45 KNIGHTSBRIDGE 235 4225 WISH YOU WERE HERE (15) Daily 3.0 5.0 7.0 9.0

ODEON HAYMARKET (839 7697) WITHNAIL AND I (15) Sep progs Daily 1.00 3.30 6.00 8.45. All seats bookable in advance. Access and Visa telephone bookings welcome.

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (930 6111) Info 930 4250 / 4259 THE LAST EMPEROR (15) in 70mm Dolby Stereo. Sep progs Daily 12.15 4.00 7.45. Doors open 12.00 3.30 7.15. All progs bookable in advance. Credit Card Hot Line (Access/Visa/ Amex) 930 3232 or 839 1929. 24 hour service.

ODEON MARBLE ARCH (723 2011) Disney's THE FOX AND THE HOUND (U) Sep progs Daily 1.45 3.55 6.05. STAKEOUT (15) Sep progs Daily 8.30. All seats bookable in advance. Access and Visa telephone bookings welcome.

RENOIR Brunswick Sq. WC1 (RUSSELL SQUARE TUBE) 837 8402
1 Kieslowski's NO END (18) 1.50 4.10 6.25 8.45. Ends Thurs STARTS Fri 1 Apr Stephane Audran in BABETTE'S FEAST (U).
2 ANGEL DUST (Poussière d'Ange) (15) 2.40 4.45 6.50 9.00

صكنا من الاجل

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Jane Rackham

BBC1

6.00 Ceefax AM.
6.35 Edgar Kennedy in *Brother Knows Best* (b/w). **6.55 Weather.**
7.00 Breakfast Time with John Stapleton and Sally Jones. Includes national and international news at **7.00, 7.30, 8.00** and **8.30**; regional news and travel reports at **7.15, 7.45** and **8.15**; weather at **7.25, 7.55** and **8.25**. **8.55** Regional news and weather.
9.00 *News* and weather followed by **Open Air** with Eamonn Holmes **9.35 The Flintstones** (r).
10.00 News and weather followed by **Going for Gold** (r). **10.25 Children's BBC.** Andy Crane with programme news and birthday greetings followed by **Play School** (r).
10.50 The Gospel According to St Mark. Part two and Jesus goes into the mountains and ordains the 12 Apostles **11.00 News** and weather followed by **Open Air** with Pattie Coldwell and Eamonn Holmes.
12.00 *News* and weather followed by **Daytime Live.** Magazine series presented by Pamela Armstrong, Alan Titchmarsh and Judi Spiers **12.55** Regional news and weather.
1.00 One O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. Weather **1.30 Neighbours.** In the Robinson household Nikki and Laura plan their respective futures **1.50 Going for Gold.** European general knowledge quiz **2.15 Knots Landing.** Gary begins divorce proceedings.
3.00 Couples. Dilys Morgan talks to the three-day eventers, David and Lucinda Green. **3.25 The Clothes Show** examines the state of British hat design.
3.50 Doodle 4.10 Laurel and Hardy. Cartoon version (r). **4.15 Jackanory.** Thora Hird with part two of Alf Proysen's *Mrs Pepperpot* (r). **4.25 Yogi Bear 4.30 Knowhow** presented by Johnny Ball, Ann De Caires and Mark Salter.
5.00 Newsround 5.05 Jossy's Giants. The final episode of the serial about a young football team (r). (Ceefax) **5.35 Neighbours** (r).
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Nicholas Witchell and Philip Hayton. Weather. **6.35 London Plus.**
7.00 Holiday 88 presented by Frank Bough. Kathy Tayler tries a kibbutz holiday in Israel; Bill Buckley takes a narrowboat along the Llangollen Canal in north Wales; and Gillian Reynolds visits the Loire Valley. (Ceefax)
7.30 EastEnders. Dr Legg's sister arrives from Israel on holiday. (Ceefax)
8.00 *A Question of Sport* presented by David Coleman. This week Bill Beaumont and Emlyn Hughes are joined by John Parrott, Roy Laidlaw, Eric Bristow and Dave Beasant.
8.30 Wildlife on One: Trivial Pursuit? — the Natural Mystery of Play. A documentary about why animals play. (Ceefax)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis and Philip Hayton. Regional news and weather.
9.30 Crossfire. Episode three of the five-part drama serial about the IRA in Northern Ireland, starring Eamon Boland. Tonight, Donal McCarthy, the IRA chief of staff, begins his search for the mole who is collaborating with British intelligence. (Ceefax)
10.20 Film 88 Special. Barry Norman interviews Sir David Lean about his life in film-making. Includes clips from his best known pictures and archive film of him at work.
10.50 Praise the Holiest with Richard Morton (tenor), David Wilson-Johnson (baritone), the City of Birmingham Choir and the BBC Welsh Syphony Orchestra conducted by Owain Arwel Hughes. Recorded at Tewkesbury Abbey.
11.35 The Gospel According to St Mark (r).
11.45 Weather.

BBC2

6.55 Open University: Photochemistry — Colour. Ends at **7.20. 9.00 Ceefax**
11.25 The Mikado. Gilbert and Sullivan's two-act opera starring William Conrad, Clive Revill, Kate Flowers and Anne Collins with the Ambrosian Opera Chorus and the London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Alexander Faris (r).
1.20 Mop and Smiff (r). **1.35 King of the Rocket Men** (b/w). Episode two of the 12-episode cliffhanger serial. **1.45 Popeye Classics** (b/w). *Shakespearean Spinach* and *Wimmin is a Myskery.*
2.00 News and weather followed by **See Hear.** Magazne series for the hard-of-hearing (r).
2.25 Look, Stranger. A portrait of John Dodgson of the English Place Names Society (r).
2.50 Small World. Eric Thompson is at Oakhill Manor the home of Walter Harper who has one of the world's best private collections of models depicting the history of land, sea and air transport (r).
3.00 News and weather followed by **The Electric Music Machine.** A documentary about the work of the six resident composers of the Radiophonic Workshop.
3.40 Holiday Outings. Kathy Tayler spends a weekend at the Pegasus Academy of Snooker in Basingstoke (r).
3.50 News, regional news and weather.
4.00 Attic Archives. The third in the series of clips from vintage home movies including, this afternoon, film of Sir Harry Lauder singing in 1930, life on St Kilda during the 1920s and a 1930s West Country lifeboat.
4.30 Life File: Genetic Engineering. Kay Alexander reports on work being done to diagnose which embryos are suffering from genetic disease (r).
5.00 *Best of Brass.* The second of three programmes presented by Gerald Harrison. The featured bands are the Parc and Dare, Lewis Merthyr (Cardiff Lift Co); the Foden OTS, GUS and the Sun Life.
5.30 Gardeners' World from the Institute of Horticultural Research, Littlehampton (r).

Ralph Richardson with Sonia Dresdel (BBC2, 9.00pm)

6.00 One Man and His Dog. The first semifinal of the BBC Television International Sheepdog Championship. Jim Grierson of Scotland meets England's Charles Cutler. In the brace championship Gwilym Jones from Wales meets John Casey of Ireland.
6.45 Architecture at the Crossroads. This fifth of 10 programmes on contemporary architecture examines examples of places designed as homes for people (r).
7.25 Cartoon Two. *The Silence of the Bats,* an award-winning animated film from Brazil.
7.30 Telejournal with Klaus Römer and Annegret O'Dwyer. The week's news as seen by viewers of ORF, the Austrian television service.
8.00 Russell Harty's Grand Tour. (Ceefax) (see Choice)
9.00 Film: The Fallen Idol (1948, b/w) starring Ralph Richardson and Michele Morgan. Drama, based on a Graham Greene short story, about an embassy butler who is accused of murdering his wife. The Ambassador's son tries to help the man but only causes him further problems. Directed by Carol Reed. (Ceefax)
10.35 Newsnight 11.20 Weather.
11.30 Open University: North Westminster Community School. Ends at **12.00.**

ITV/LONDON

6.00 TV-am includes reports from Florida with celebrity interviews. In the studio, news, weather sport and current affairs at **6.30** and **8.00.**
9.00 *Wacaday from Disneyland in Florida.*
9.25 *Thames news.*
9.30 Lucky Ladders. Word game **10.00** *Santa Barbara* **10.25 News headlines.**
10.30 The Time. . .The Place. . . Mike Scott chairs a discussion on a topical subject **11.10 Rainbow.** Learning made fun with puppets **11.25 Thames news headlines.**
11.30 About Britain: Weir's Way. Tom Weir, continuing his tour of Scotland, visits Apple Cross and Loch Torridon **12.00 Gas Street.** Music and chat show presented by Suzi Quatro and Vince Hill **12.30 Quandries.** Quiz game presented by Matthew Kelly. The guest is Frank Carson
1.00 News at One with Julia Somerville **1.20 Thames news.**
1.30 Quincy. The investigative pathologist examines a dead kidnapper's car for clues that might lead to the identity of his victim (r). **2.30 The Treatment** includes the truth about overnight slimming pills.
3.00 The Write Stuff. Thriller writer Eric Van Lustbader explains his fascination with the Orient. *3.25 Thames news headlines* **3.30 The Young Doctors.**
4.00 Rainbow. A repeat of the programme shown at 11.10 **4.15** *The Moomins.* Episode 21 (r). **4.25 Who's Next.** Children talk about their likes and dislikes **4.35 Bellamy's Bugle.** David Bellamy visits reed beds in Norfolk and meets a mysterious marshman **4.50 Do It** with Norman Tipton, Sarah Flind and Paul Ryan.
5.15 Connections.
5.45 News with Alastair Stewart **6.00 Thames news** followed by **Crimestoppers.**
6.25 Help learns about the Kateda Women's Self Defence Association
6.35 Crossroads.
7.00 Bless This House. Vintage domestic comedy series (r).
7.30 Reporting London returns to the street where three people lost their lives in a house fire and investigates the degree of safety of the neighbours houses.
8.00 Paul Nicholas and Friends. The guests are Dora Bryan, Fiona Hendley, Grace Kennedy, Bonnie Langford and Jessica Martin.
9.00 Codename Kyril. Episode one of a two-part thriller to be shown on consecutive days about a plan to flush out a KGB traitor who has been passing top secret material to London. Starring Edward Woodward, Ian Charleson, Denholm Elliott and Richard E. Grant. (Oracle) (continues after the news)
10.00 News at Ten with Alastair Burnet and Sandy Gall **10.30 Thames news.**
10.35 Codename Kyril continued.
11.35 Seconds Out. Boxing from the York Hall, Bethnal Green.
12.35am Roxy — the Network Chart Show
1.05 Kojak. The New York detective investigates the bombing of a Manhattan restaurant.
2.00 News headlines followed by **Operation Dead End** (1986) starring Hannes Jaenicke and Isabelle Willer. Drama about three volunteers who are staying in an atomic shelter on an uninhabited island for 72 days in order that scientists can monitor humans' survival prospects. The three then discover that the scientists have been misleading them. Directed by Nikolai Mullerschon.
4.00 News headlines followed by **Three's Company.** Comedy series.
4.30 Nashville Swing featuring Narvel Felts.
5.00 ITN Morning News. Ends **6.00.**

CHANNEL 4

12.00 Just 4 Fun. The puppet Pob introduces three programmes for children — *Dangermouse, Make Music Fun* and *Simon in the Land of Chalk Drawings.*
12.30 Business Daily. Financial and business news service presented by Susannah Simons.
1.00 Sesame Street. Pre-school learning series for children. The guest is Lena Horne.
2.00 The Parliament Programme presented by Nicholas Woolley. Reporters James Mates and Jackie Ashley review yesterday's debates in both Houses and look forward to those scheduled for today.
2.30 Film: Men of Two Worlds (1946) starring Eric Portman and Phyllis Calvert. Drama about a Europeanized black African who is summoned back to his homeland by the local district commissioner. On his arrival he discovers that his tribe is under the control of a witch doctor who is preventing the people from being moved to an area free of sleeping sickness. Directed by Thorold Dickinson.
4.30 Fifteen-to-One. Fast-moving general knowledge game presented by William G. Stewart.
5.00 Bewitched. Vintage American comedy series starring Elizabeth Montgomery and Dick Sargent.
5.30 The Industrious Bee. Programme two of the six-part series following the cycle of the bee-keeping year traces the history of bee-keeping; hears the experiences of the man who keeps the most bees in Britain; visits a 16th-century garden with beehives; and goes behind the scenes of the country's biggest honey farm. (Oracle)
6.00 Land of Hope. Episode six of the 10-part drama serial following the lives of one Irish-Australian working class family from the late 1800s to the 1970s. Through the story of the Quinn family the serial traces the stormy development of the Australian Labour movement.
7.00 Channel 4 News with Peter Sissons and Sue Carpenter.
7.50 Comment followed by **Weather.**
8.00 Brookside. Terry's hangover is made worse when Donna talks of going to Liverpool to see his fleet of taxis; and Rod goes to London to look for Tracy, taking Jamie with him. (Oracle)
8.30 *Moneyspinner.* The first of a new series of the personal financial advice service presented by Douglas Moffitt and Sally Hawkins. This evening, pension options are examined; the pros and cons of owning a greyhound; how to cut down your tax bills; and how the new allowances in the Budget will affect tax next year. Plus, a look at the changes in benefit regulations.
9.00 The Media Show with Muriel Gray. This week the programme includes a report on the buying and selling of television advertising; news journalists Michael Buerk and Jon Snow and news producer Joy Johnson discuss the fine line between news and entertainment; and why Africa has taken over from India as the latest backdrop for British and American films.
10.00 Film: Crisis at Central High (1981) starring Joanna Woodward and Charles Durning. A made-for-television drama about the conflict in 1957 between the Arkansas state government and the Federal Government over the forced integration of black and white pupils at Little Rock's Central High School as seen through the eyes of the school's vice-principal. Directed by Lamont Johnson.
12.15am Running Late presented by Donald Trelford. In this last programme of the series a studio audience tackles a panel on the issues raised during the series. Among those on the panel are Roy Hattersley, Peter Lush and Sally Jones.
1.15 Film: Chinese Roulette (1976) starring Margit Carstensen, Anna Karina, Alexander Allerson and Andrea Schober. A black comedy examining the relationships between a husband and wife, their respective lovers and their crippled daughter during a weekend spent at a country house. Directed by Rainer Werner Fassbinder. Ends at **2.50.**

VARIATIONS

BBC1 WALES: 5.35pm-6.00 Wales Today 6.35-7.00 News followed by Neighbours 9.30 Week In Week Out 10.00-10.50 Crossfire 11.45 Film 88 Special 12.15am-12.20 News and weather SCOTLAND: 6.35pm-7.00 Reporting Scotland 8.30-9.00 Focal Point NORTHERN IRELAND: 5.35pm Today's Sport 5.40-6.00 Inside Ulster 6.35-7.00 Neighbours 11.45-11.50 News and weather ENGLAND: 6.35pm-7.00 Regional news magazines

BBC2 WALES: 9.00am Ceefax 10.35 The Mikado 12.30pm-1.20 Indoor Bowls SCOTLAND: 7.30pm-8.00 Prosbaig

ANGLIA As London except: 1.20pm News 1.30-2.30 Love Boat 6.00-6.35 About Anglia 7.00 Bygones 7.30-8.00 Roxy 12.35am Prisoner: Cell Block H 1.30 America's Top 10 2.00 Return to Eden 3.00 David Cassidy 4.00-6.00 Poseidon Files.

BORDER As London except: 1.20pm News 1.30-2.30 Love Boat 3.30-4.00 Sons and Daughters 6.00-6.35 Lookaround 7.00 Roxy 7.30-8.00 Take the High Road 10.35 Codename Kyril 11.35 Boxing 12.35am Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 1.20pm News 1.30-2.30 Crazy Like a Fox 3.30-4.00 Sons and Daughters 6.00-6.35 News 7.00 Roxy 7.30-8.00 Knight Rider 10.35 Codename Kyril 11.35 Film: Anne of the Thousand Days 2.20 America's Top Ten 2.50 Superstars of Wrestling 3.40 Dimension 2000 4.30-5.00 Jobfinder.

CHANNEL As London except: 1.20pm News 1.30 Gardening Time 2.00 Gems 2.30 The Write Stuff 3.00 Quandaries 3.30-4.00 Sons and Daughters 6.00 Channel Report 6.30 World Money 6.35 Big Waters, Big Fish 7.05 Crossroads 7.30-8.00 Just for Laughs 11.35 Soap 12.05am Roxy 12.40 Donahue 1.40 Film: Panic on the 5.22 3.00 Company, Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 1.20pm Granada Reports 1.30-2.30 Love Boat 3.30-4.00 Sons and Daughters 6.00 Granada Reports 7.00 Roxy 7.30-8.00 In Loving Memory 11.35 Film: Anne of a Thousand Days 2.20am America's Top 10 2.50 Sports Action 3.40 Power Hour 4.40-5.00 Jobfinder.

HTV WEST As London except: 1.20pm News 1.30-2.30 Love Boat 6.00 News 6.45 Crossroads 7.30-8.00 Roxy 12.35am Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 6.00pm-6.45 Wales at Six.

TSW As London except: 1.20pm News 1.30-2.30 Man in a Suitcase 3.30-4.00 Sons and Daughters 5.15-5.45 Crossroads 6.00 Today 6.30 Boat Show 7.00 Roxy 7.30-8.00 9 to 5 11.35 Postscript Diary 11.45 Twilight Zone 12.41am Closedown.

TVS As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Sullivans 1.20 News 1.30 Gardening Time 2.00 Gems 2.30 Write Stuff 3.00 Quandaries 3.30-4.00 Sons and Daughters 6.00 Coast to Coast 6.25 Police 5 6.35 Big Waters, Big Fish 7.05 Crossroads 7.30-8.00 Just for Laughs 11.35 Soap 12.05 Roxy 12.40 Donahue 1.40 Film: Panic on the 5.22 3.00 Company, Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 1.20pm News 1.30-2.30 Beyond 2000 6.00-6.35 Northern Life 7.00 Roxy 7.30-8.00 Survival 11.35 Comedy Tonight 12.05am Epilogue 12.10-6.00 Jobfinder.

ULSTER As London except: 1.20pm Newstime 1.30-2.30 Highway to Heaven 3.30-4.00 Cover Story 6.00 Six Tonight 6.20 Ask Anne 6.30-6.35 Last Journey 7.30 Roxy 7.30-8.00 Knight Rider 11.35 At the Maintenance Shop 12.25am Last Journey 12.30 Newstime, Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 1.20pm News 1.30-2.30 Highway to Heaven 3.30-4.00 Sons and Daughters 6.00-6.35 Calendar 7.00-8.00 The A-Team 11.35 Fight Night Special 12.35am Meditations for Holy Week 12.45 Jobfinder 1.45 Closedown.

S4C Starts: 10.30am Film: Hands Across the Table" 12.00 Fifteen to One 12.30pm Business Daily 1.00 Sesame Street 2.00 Film: It's in the Air" 4.05 Fflatabalam 4.20 Hafoc 5.00 Bewitched" 5.30 Superchamps 6.00 Brookside 6.30 Cosby Show 7.00 Newyddion Saith 7.30 Palu 'Misen 8.00 Treasure Hunt 9.00 Panto 10.30 Newyddion Newydd 10.40 The Management 11.10 Girls on Top 11.40 Black Forest Clinic 12.30am Closedown.

RTE 1 Starts: 2.35am Early Musical Instruments 3.00 'Live at Three' 4.00 Dempsey's Den 4.30 Happy Birthday 4.35 Dlin O Deamhas 4.45 Defenders of the Earth 5.10 Zoo Logic 5.25 Video Time 5.45 News 6.00 Angelus 6.01 Newstime 6.30 Rapid Roulette 7.00 Evening Extra 7.30 Simon and Simon 8.30 Face of the Earth 9.00 News 9.30 Today Tonight 10.10 Hooperman 10.40 Borderline 11.50 News, Closedown.

RTE 2 Starts: 5.00pm Emmerdale Farm 5.25 Scotland's Story 5.55 Tomorrow's World 6.30 Country Practice 7.00 Sledge Hammer 7.30 Glenroe 8.00 Nuacht 8.10 Cursai 8.40 Black Forest Clinic 10.20 Newsnight 10.45 Wiseguy 11.40 Nightlight, Closedown.

The lone traveller contemplates his forthcoming trip to foreign parts in Russell Harty's Grand Tour (BBC2, 8.00pm)

Harty's holiday chat show

TELEVISION CHOICE

● As the White Cliffs of Dover fade into the distance, a traveller sits alone on the windswept deck of a cross channel ferry and quotes Smollett and Adam Smith to the effect that travel is best undertaken in one's maturer years. Gamely admitting that he is no spring chicken, Russell Harty (for it is he) steps ashore in Ostend. **Russell Harty's Grand Tour** (BBC2, 8.00pm) is under way. Ostend, though, is a bad start. It stinks of chips and reminds Russell of Clacton. Cheering himself up, he goes to a fish market and asks a priest to recite one to 10 in Flemish. "Well done, you are very good at Flemish," says Russell. He is more at home in Bruges, where he meets a manic bell ringer who looks like Abraham Lincoln. In Brussels he asks Barbara Castle about Euro MPs' allegedly astronomical expenses. "The harder you work, the poorer you are," she replies enigmatically. In Paris he discovers a garden dedicated to Shakespeare and has lunch at the British Embassy with Rudolf Nureyev and Charlotte Rampling. In a Paris suburb he calls on Hitler's friend, Lady Diana Mosley, and wonders whether a friend of Hitler can be a friend of his. It is all rather rambling and shapeless and inconsequential, and though Harty tries to make the proceedings seem spontaneous, you can almost sense the camera crew carefully lining up the shots. When a visit to Lyons stirs memories of his father's fruit and vegetable stall in Blackburn market, you begin to wish that our traveller had stayed at home. A tour of Blackburn might not be a grand one but it would have the personal touch. As it is, we are left with a sort of travelling chat show in which Russell's guests tonight are Barbara Castle, Rudolf Nureyev and Lady Diana Mosley.

Peter Waymark

Radiophonic fear

RADIO CHOICE

● Fear on 4 has departed from Radio 4 to be replaced, albeit for one night only, by Fear on 3. **Private Dreams and Public Nightmares** (Radio 3, 10.25pm), devised by Frederick Bradnum after what sounds like a tormented and sleepless night caused either by too many oysters for supper or an onrush of conscience over the ills of the world that he had pushed to the back of his mind, was first heard 30 years ago. Either way, it made radiophonic history. Never before had electronics been integrated with the human voice like this. The outcome was the setting-up of the BBC Radiophonic Workshop which has subsequently produced so many sophisticated wonders that Bradnum's pioneering piece has become a museum piece. True, sound balance has improved since 1958 so that we are no longer tempted to mutter "No" when one of Bradnum's voices asks: "Can't you hear the pain of the world calling?" And nobody these days would dare to speed up voices to the point where they sound like the Chipmunks. But *Private Dreams and Public Nightmares* undoubtedly showed how electronics could liberate the imagination of writers attempting to explore the subconscious along previously undiscovered paths.

Joan Sanderson: radio pioneer (R3, 10.25pm)

● **The Radio Programme** (Radio 4, 8pm) shows no signs of substituting the velvet glove for the iron fist. Visiting critics use words like "Celtic pap" about Radio 2's *Folk on 2* and Radio 4's *On Your Farm* is trounced because of one farmer's allegiance to Mrs Thatcher.

Peter Davalle

Radio 1

MW (medium wave). Stereo on **FM** (see below)
News on the half-hour from 6.30am until 8.30pm. **5.30am** Mark Goodier **7.00** Mike Smith's Breakfast Show **9.30** Simon Bates **12.30** Newsbeat (Frank Partridge) **12.45** Gary Davies **3.00** Steve Wright **5.30** Newsbeat **5.45** Bruno Brookes **7.30** Simon Mayo **10.00-12.00** John Peel. **FM** Stereo Radios 1 and 2:- **4.00am** As Radio 2 **10.00pm** As Radio 1 **12.00-4.00am** As Radio 2.

Radio 2

MW (medium wave). Stereo on **FM** (see Radio 1)
News on the hour. Sports Round-Up **8.50am**
4.00am Colin Berry **5.30** John Marsh **7.30** Derek Jameson **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.00** Jimmy Young **1.05pm** David Jacobs **2.00** Debbie Greenwood **3.30** Joe Brown **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Robert Parker's A to Z of Jazz (13) "K" and "L" **7.30** Steve Race Presents the Radio Orchestra Show **9.25** Sam Cooke (Dave Gelly salutes a distinguished career) *10.00 Boxing Special (Lloyd Honeyghan v Jorge Vaca)* *10.30 Dealing with Daniels* **11.00** Brian Matthew **1.00am** Patrick Lunt **3.00-4.00** A Little Night Music.

WORLD SERVICE

All programme times are given in GMT **6.00am** Newsdesk **6.30** Rock Salad **7.00** News **7.09** Twenty-four Hours **7.30** Journey Round My People **7.45** Network UK **8.00** News **8.09** Reflections **8.15** Tech Talk **8.30** Best on Record **9.00** News **9.09** Review of British Press **9.15** World Today **9.30** *Financial News* followed by Sports Roundup **9.45** Seven Ages of Man **10.00** News **10.01** Discovery **10.30** Londres Midi **11.00** News **11.09** News About Britain **11.15** Wondrous Cross **11.30** Citizens **12.00** Radio Newsreel **12.15** Multitrack 1 **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** News **1.09** Twenty-four Hours **1.30** Network UK **1.45** Recording of the Week **2.00** Outlook **2.45** Virtuoso **3.00** Radio Newsreel **3.15** A Jolly Good Show **4.00** News **4.09** Commentary **4.15** English by Radio **4.45** Londres Soir **5.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** Outlook **7.29** Stock Market Report **7.45** Report on Religion **8.00** News **8.09** Twenty-Four Hours **8.30** Meridian **9.00** News **9.01** Wondrous Cross **9.15** Concert Hall **10.00** News **10.09** World Today **10.25** A Letter from Scotland **10.30** Financial News **10.40** Reflections **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News **11.09** Commentary **11.15** *Juke Box Diary* **11.30** Why Should This Happen To Me? **12.00** News **12.09** News About Britain **12.15** Radio Newsreel **12.30** Omnibus **1.00** News **1.01** Outlook **1.30** Report on Religion **1.45** Country Style **2.00** News **2.09** Commentary **2.15** Chain Reaction **2.30** Citizens **3.00** News **3.09** News About Britain **3.15** World Today **3.30** Six Four Eight News **3.35** Financial News **3.45** Morgenmagazin **4.45** World Today **5.00** World News and Twenty-Four Hours **5.30** Londres Matin.

Radio 3

6.35 Open University: *Metaphysical posts* **6.55** News and weather
7.00 Concert: *Mussorgsky* (Prelude; Khovanshchina, Dawn over the Moscow River: LSO under Claudio Abbado); Mahler (Rheinlegendchen: Schwarzkopf, soprano, with LSO under George Szell); Bizet (L'Arlésienne Suite No 1: RPO under Beecham)
7.30 News bulletin
7.35 Concert (contd): Biber (Mystery Sonata No 7 in F: with Franzjosef Maier, baroque violin; Max Engel, baroque cello; Konrad Junghänel, theorbo; Franz Lehrndorfer, organ); Finzi (Les Us Garlands Bring: John Carol Case, baritone; with New Philharmonia under Handley); Pizzetti (La Pisanelle suite: Suisse Romande under Lamberto Ganrdelli); Beethoven (An die ferne Geliebte: Fischer-Dieskau, baritone, with Hartmut Höll, piano)
8.30 News bulletin
8.35 *Composers of the Week:* Alkan. James Clark (violin) and Ronald Smith (piano) perform Trois études de bravoure, Op 16; Grand Duo Cocnertant, Op 21; Marche funèbre, Op 26; and Marche triomphale, Op 27
9.35 Bach: English Baroque Soloists under John Eliot Gardiner perform Suite No 2 in B minor
10.00 Lamentations: BBC Singers under Simon Joly. Ginastera's Lamentations of Jeremiah; and Brian Chapple's Lamentations of Jeremiah
10.30 Piano recital: John Clegg performs Fauré's Theme and Variations in C sharp minor; Nocturne No 7; and Huit pièces brèves, Op 84
11.15 BBC Philharmonic, under Günther Herbig. With Gyorgy Pauk (violin), Steven Isserlis (cello). Haydn (Symphony No 102); Schoenberg (Verklärte Nacht); Brahms (Concerto in A minor for violin, cello, orchestra) **1.00** News
1.05 Schubert: Robert Holl (bass), Konrad Richter (piano). The songs include Sehnsucht, D 516; Am Strome; Beim Winde; Memnon; Atys; and Der zürnenden Diana
2.00 Music in Dresden: recordings including Walter von der Vogelweide's Unter der Linden (Rosemary Harrison, soprano, with St George's Canzona); the glen scene from Weber's Der Freischütz (Dresden State Orchestra and soloists including Theo Adam and Peter Schreier); excerpts from Act 2 of Tannhäuser (with Elisabeth Rethberg, soprano); Strauss's Serenade in E flat, Op 7 (Netherlands Wind Ensemble); and Schumann's Marches, in G minor; in B flat, Op 76 (Schneider, violin, Casals, cello; and Horszowski (piano)
3.50 Brahms: Music Group of London Piano Trio play the Trio in A, Op posth
4.35 Arvo Pärt: Summa (Credo); Missa Sillabica. Hilliard Ensemble, with Christopher Bowers-Broadbent (organ)
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: with Natalie Wheen
6.30 This Is Who We Are: Christopher Small presents Afro-American music, featuring Elvis Presley, Louis Jordan and Sweet Honey in the Rock **7.00** News
7.05 Third Ear: Alan Bennett, writer of plays and films, talks to Paul Bailey
7.30 *Bach's St John Passion:* Sung in German. A live transmission from Westminster Cathedral. David Hill directs City of London Sinfonia, Choir of Westminster Cathedral. With soloists Martyn Hill, David Thomas, Anne Dawson, Christopher Robson, Mark Tucker, Michael George. Includes interval reading from a Martin Luther sermon by the Rev Ronald Englund, Pastor of St Anne's Lutheran Church, London
9.50 North and South: talk by Michael Black, former Cambridge University publisher
10.10 New-Found Liszt: William Wright (piano) plays Piano Piece in A flat, S 189; and Divertimento on a Cavatina by Pacini
10.25 Private Dreams and Public Nightmares: Donald McWhinnie's pioneering radiophonic programme. With Joan Sanderson, Andrew Sachs and Frederick Treves (r) (see Choice)
10.50 The Seven Last Words: Primrose Quartet perform the fourth word
11.00 Composers of the Week: Strauss. Recordings of Sonatina No 1 in F, for wind; and the symphonic fantasy Die Frau ohne Schatten (r)
12.00 *News bulletin*
12.05 Wolf 88: Benjamin Luxon (baritone) and David Willison (piano) perform Frage und Antwort. Ends at **12.10am**

Radio 4

LW (long wave). (s) Stereo on FM
5.55 Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing; Weather **6.10** Farming **6.25** Prayer (s)
6.30 Today, incl **6.30, 7.30, 8.30** News **6.45** Business News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.00, 8.00** News **7.20** Letters **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.35** Yesterday in Parliament **8.57** Weather, Travel
9.00 News bulletin
9.05 Call Nick Ross: the number to dial is 01-580 4411
10.00 News; *Medicine Now:* presented by Geoff Watts
10.30 Short Stories for Holy Week: Extracts from In the Springtime of the Year, by Susan Hill. Read by Wendy Craig
10.45 Daily Service (s)
11.00 News; *Travel; Citizens:* The first of this week's two episodes (s)
11.25 From Our Own Correspondent
11.50 Youthful, Rural and Broke: Dan Cherrington recalls his youth spent on a Hampshire farm with the story of Flash, the sheepdog (r) (4)
12.00 News; You and Yours: Consumer advice and information service with Susan Rae
12.25 My Music: Steve Race chairs the musical panel game with John Amis, Frank Muir, Ian Wallace and Denis Norden (r) (s) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One presented by Nick Worrall
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Woman's Hour: *Includes part one of Elizabeth and Her German Garden,* a four-part serial by Elizabeth Von Arnim. Read by Helen Ryan. Plus features on veterans from the Vietnam War, how long babies should be breast fed, and the auction of the Chinese Emperor's clothes
3.00 News; Second Chance: play by Allen Sadler, starring June Whitfield and Derek Newark as the liberal, easy-going couple whose daughter wants some Eighties-style straightness in their life (s)
3.32 Comparing Notes: Richard Baker talks to current and past members of the National Youth Orchestra, and its musical director Derek Bourgeois (s)
4.00 News bulletin
4.05 In Business: presented by David Lomax
4.30 Kaleidoscope (r)
5.00 PM presented by Robert Williams and Bill Frost **5.50** Shipping **5.55** Weather
6.00 News with Bryan Martin, incl Financial Report
6.30 King Street Junior: School comedy series by Jim Eldridge, starring Karl Howman and James Grout (as the headmaster). This week the children go on a camping holiday (s) (r)
7.00 News bulletin
7.05 The Archers: More goings-on in Ambridge
7.20 Workforce (new series): In the first of three programmes Brian Redhead examines some of the problems faced by Britain's one and a half million long-term unemployed
8.00 *The Radio Programme:* Laurie Taylor with news, views and comment about Radio Leeds and its programmes for Asian listeners (see Choice) (r)
8.30 The Countryside in Spring: Mollie Harris with a seasonal reflection on life in the British countryside, including a conversation with former show-jumper Pat Koechlin-Smythe, now an active member of the World Wildlife Fund and keen conservationist (r)
9.15 In Touch: magazine for the visually handicapped presented by Peter White
9.45 Kaleidoscope: Includes reviews of *Wild at Heart* at the Riverside Studios and *The Stories of Enid Wharton* edited by Anita Brookner; plus a feature on the work of the Radiophonic Workshop and audio arts
10.15 A Book at Bedtime: Leaving Home, written and read by Garrison Keillor. A story of the American mid-west (2 of 10) **10.29** Weather
10.30 The World Tonight presented by Alexander MacLeod
11.15 The Financial World Tonight
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00 News, incl **12.20** Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast
FM as above except: **1.55-2.00pm** *Listening Corner* **5.50-5.55** PM (continued) **11.30-12.10am** Open University: Education for Adults — Paulo Freire

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m;VHF-88-90.2. **Radio 2:** 693kHz/433m;909kHz/330m;VHF-88-90.2. **Radio 3:** 1215kHz/247m; VHF-90-92.5. **Radio 4:** 200kHz/1500m;VHF-92-95. **LBC:** 1152kHz/ 261m;VHF 97.3. **Capital:** 1548kHz/194m;VHF95.8. **BBC Radio London:** 1458kHz/206m;VHF 94.9; **World Service:** MF648kHz/463m.

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Harrier crash proof lies in water as deep as grave of the Titanic

Tiny light may have killed jet pilot

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

A test pilot lowering his cockpit seat to escape the glare of the setting sun probably set off the freak chain of events which led to him being sucked out to his death, while the Harrier jet flew on pilotless for more than two hours.

Months of experiments to try to unravel the mystery of the Harrier which crashed, out of fuel, into the Irish Sea, while Mr Taylor Scott, its pilot, lay dead on Salisbury Plain have led to three hypotheses – only one of which could be tried in flight.

Central to the theory is a small "wander light", now banned from all Harriers, but which was standard at the time of the flight of Harrier ZD325.

Somehow, according to the theory, the small light fell beneath the pilot's seat, below a metal bar linking an emergency parachute to an explosive cartridge designed to hurl an ejected pilot free from his seat.

As Mr Scott, one of the most experienced Harrier pilots working from British Aerospace, took his aircraft on a routine pre-delivery flight over Boscombe Down up to 30,000 feet on October 22 last year, he had no idea the tiny light had lodged in such a potentially lethal position.

The Ministry of Defence accident report sets out what probably happened next.

"When the pilot levelled off at the top of the climb he would have been almost facing the glare of the low sun. This is likely to have markedly hindered his ability to see items on the instrument panel.

"It is wholly conceivable that he then lowered his seat to obtain a better view of the cockpit instruments."

As the seat moved downwards, the connector rod from the manual override handle bent over the light, so pulling out a safety device separating the firing pin and the percussion cap of the cartridge. The pin dropped down, the cartridge exploded and fired a parachute which pulled Mr Scott through the canopy.

At an inquest into the accident yesterday it was emphasized that the precise cause may never be known because the Harrier is lying too deep for salvage.

Two other less likely theories were considered.

The first was that the pilot became disorientated because his oxygen mask disconnected and pulled the manual seat mechanism. The second is that he pulled the handle by mistake.

Both theories are less likely than the first

"The most probable cause of the accident was withdrawal of the manual override gear due to the presence of an object lodged under the operating rod and the most likely culprit was the cockpit wander lamp", the official RAF report says.

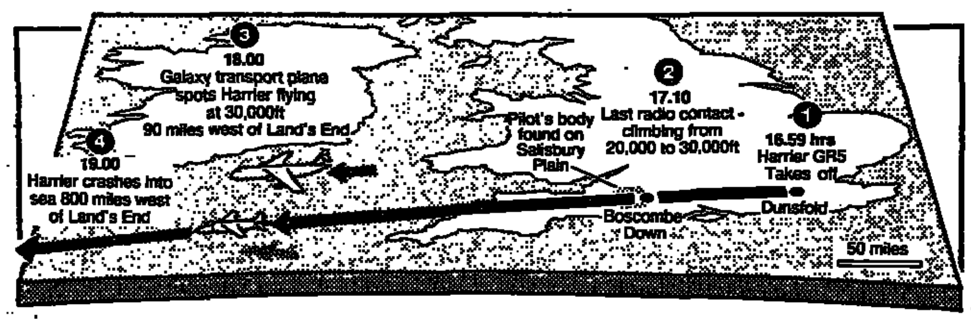
Martin Baker, the Denham based company whose 63,000 ejection seats have saved the lives of 5,675 aircrew worldwide, made repeated tests to try to establish what had gone wrong and finally discovered that the connecting rod did bend when the light was beneath it and the seat was lowered.

"It was clearly a millions to once chance", Mr Brian Miller, Martin Baker's head of marketing said. "We have now made modifications to protect that linkage on the Harrier, Hawk, Tornado and other aircraft."

At yesterday's inquest, Mr John Elgar, the coroner, recorded an open verdict after hearing how Mr Scott, aged 40, "a brave, dedicated and skilled test pilot", was killed because his parachute was so badly torn that it could not support him.

Proof will never be obtained, he said, because the answer "lies in water as deep as the grave of the Titanic."

Test pilot Taylor Scott in the cockpit and, below, the Harrier jet on its 'Marie Celeste' flight over southern England


③ 18.00 Galaxy transport plane spots Harrier flying at 30,000ft 90 miles west of Land's End
④ 19.00 Harrier crashes into sea 800 miles west of Land's End
Pilot's body found on Salisbury Plain
② 17.10 Last radio contact - climbing from 20,000 to 30,000ft
① 16.59 hrs Harrier GR5 Takes off
Boscombe Down
Dunsfold
50 miles

Commons sketch

Party games spoil a House warming

There was such chumminess in the air that even old colleagues in the Labour Party could be spotted nodding to one another. For a short time, Mr Tony Benn exchanged words with Mr Merlyn Rees before returning to his ashen-faced solitude.

From then on, Mr Benn took to biting his nails, cleaning his teeth with his forefinger and giving his mouth a general spring-cleaning, his perpetual look of indignant concern never vanishing from his face. At one point, he seemed to experience trouble with his square, black-faced, digital watch, and, just as that matter seemed to have been resolved, his hearing aid went wonky, requiring elaborate readjustment.

The only other person in the Chamber not to have been infected with the light-headed atmosphere of camaraderie was Mr Robert Maclennan, who expressed his "high anxiety" to Mr Cecil Parkinson on an energy matter. The House was in easy-going form, so easy-going, indeed, that it had forgotten to tease Small Mac. Perhaps this loss of identity was the cause of Mr Maclennan's anxiety.

So bizarre was the new-found inter-party jollity that some of its more extreme moments may well have been dreamt up in a prior round of the delightful old game of "Consequences", the thin strip of paper unravelling to reveal this peculiar exchange:

Left-wing Mr Tony Banks

MET

Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Arts

IN

The Chamber of the House.

BANKS SAID TO LUCE:
"Come and see a show at my expense and join me for a curry afterwards".

LUCE SAID TO BANKS:
"That's the most generous and surprising offer I've ever had. I'll consider it."

THE CONSEQUENCE WAS:
Poor Mr Luce found himself having to sit through "The Ragged Trousered Philanthropist" in an East End theatre before forcing down a curry while attempting to converse with Mr Banks.

THE WORLD SAID:
Ministers should never act genial.

It only remained for Mr Eric Forth to ruin the game by speaking on behalf of all those who did not wish to play. "Those who want the arts and support them should pay for themselves", he cackled.

The party atmosphere, which seemed in danger of flagging, was later revived by Mr Jack Straw during an exchange on the abolition of the Ilea. For the last week or so, Mr Straw has been attacking Mr Kenneth Baker's Education Reform Bill with all the ferocity of a man armed with a full range of tickling sticks. Alas for Mr Straw, Mr Baker obviously rather likes being tickled, roaring with laughter at even the soppiest jokes, his feet kicking merrily at the Despatch Box.

Mr Straw had thought up a new joke over the weekend. He wondered if Mr Baker had received cards from Messrs Tebbit or Heseltine congratulating him on 20 years in Parliament?

When this joke failed to set the House alight, Mr Straw had a stab at another, reading from a weekend poll in which Mr Heseltine was proclaimed the popular favourite to succeed Mrs Margaret Thatcher, with Mr Tebbit the party favourite. Ha, ha, ha, went Mr Straw, while most Conservatives struggled to smile sympathetically. Most, that is, except the doughty Dame Elaine Kellett-Bowman, never one for knockabout comedy at the best of times. "What has this got to do with it?" she butted in.

But Mr Straw was not letting such a trifling objection ruin his joke. He read out the other runners in the Tory Election Stakes. Even the Under-Secretary of State for Wales had gained 3 per cent of the vote, he said, "But where is my hero?" Experts interpreted this as a jocular reference to Mr Baker, whom he went on to describe as "Mr Two Per Cent". Such a low score for his hero had ruined his Sunday, he claimed, chortling at his own joke.

Perhaps regretting his rash invitation to Mr Luce, Mr Banks became the party-pooper. "They're hypocrites and they're liars", he said, pointing at the Tory benches. Mr Straw looked mystified at such an outburst, his eyebrows raised as if searching for the hidden pun.

Craig Brown

Garda attacks lack of cash to counter IRA terrorism

By John Cooney

The crisis of morale in the Irish Republic's police force came to the surface last night when senior Garda officers vehemently criticized the Dublin Government's failure to allocate resources for an effective campaign against IRA terrorism.

The deep-seated grievances were voiced in the presence of Mr Gerry Collins, the Justice Minister, at the opening session of the conference of the Association of Sergeants and Inspectors.

Mr Collins, a key figure in the combined strategy of the British and Irish Governments to defeat terrorism both in the Republic and Northern Ireland, reacted angrily to the accusations. He made no effort to offer more resources to the beleaguered police force.

The strongest condemnation of government policy came from the association's chairman, Mr John Durcan, who said the Garda was fighting modern terrorism with the archaic structures of a police force established in the 1920s.

Mr Durcan's comments are bound to reinforce fears among British ministers and Ulster unionist politicians that the Garda cannot deliver consistently on anti-terrorist operations introduced under the Anglo-Irish agreement.

Morale in the 11,000 force has been battered in recent months by widespread criticism on both sides of the Irish sea of its performance during the kidnap of Mr John O'Grady, a Dublin dentist. Two suspected terrorists escaped from custody inside a police station and slipped through a huge dragnet.

In more recent weeks the Garda has redeemed its reputation by capturing the kidnap gang.

But the senior police officers still feel badly let down by the Irish Government, complaining bitterly that a penny-pinching attitude by the Irish exchequer prevents them from obtaining adequate financial resources to update their equipment.

The police and the Irish Government did find common cause last night in warmly welcoming colleagues to the conference in Newmarket, County Clare, from the Royal Ulster Constabulary and from the Northern Ireland Police Federation.

Armenian strike bites

Continued from page 1

how long the protest action was due to last, but dissident sources said that it had initially been called for three days to express "the deep dissatisfaction" felt by the Armenian majority at Moscow's refusal to permit the requested boundary changes.

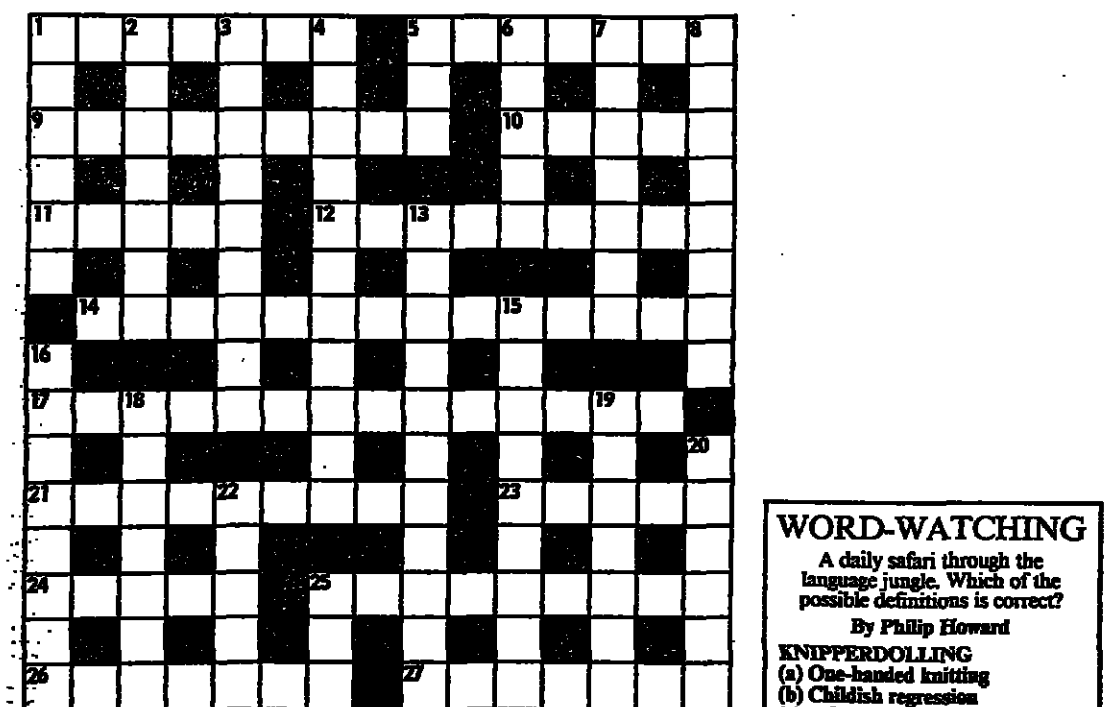
The newspaper quoted Stepanakert's station master as saying that 93 freight cars were standing without being unloaded on the tracks on Sunday. It reported that the strike was preventing products, including oil from being moved.

The strike was seen as a double blow to the Kremlin leadership, which is grappling to control the crisis before it spreads

A European diplomat said that the decision to down tools came even though the Kremlin was relying on greatly increased economic aid as a key weapon in its package to try to defuse the situation.

Pravda declared, in a plea to the strikers to end their stoppage, that the first condition for the Kremlin's plans to resolve the crisis was "for machines not to stand idle, freight wagons to be unloaded and work in the fields to proceed".

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,629



ACROSS
1 Score without any handicap (7).
5 Girl nuts about ocean-going junk (7).
9 Blue makes apparent retirement in middle of race (9).
10 Spirit measure – about one litre (5).
11 Grant Cockneys regard as sacred (5).
12 Keep saying "Retreat" – that's wrong (9).
14 Working on ranch, won card game ... (5,3,6).
17 ... king coming into play twice (5,3,6).
21 Boxer finds god's in control (9).
23 Island with dried up river (5).
24 Bear to seek election (5).
25 Luxurious living produces fat, protruding bellies (9).
26 Senator involved in disloyalty (7).
27 Doorkeeper accepts twopence for a stickleback (7).

DOWN
1 Bridge run into by American boat (6).
2 Thief – one making little noise? (7).
3 Deliberately under-emphasized scrap (5-4).
4 Shop-keeper – he has barred riots (11).
5 Without pay? That's not right – here's the pay (3).
6 Ring Jack up on December 7th, and talk at length (5).
7 A brisk run over a church green (7).
8 Wartime shelter eaten by worms (8).
13 Inferior doctor in fifteen replaced (11).
15 Fed up – accepted in club and then dropped (9).
16 Sturdy bumpkin drowned by rising river (8).
18 Render an account in detail (7).
19 Plant providing work when judge intervenes (7).
20 Old boy makes himself heard in spring (6).
22 Where to find spirits – spirits that haven't been opened (5).
25 Cool off one who's excessively enthusiastic (3).

Concise Crossword, page 11

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

KNIPPERDOLLING
(a) One-handed knitting
(b) Childish regression
(c) A fanatic

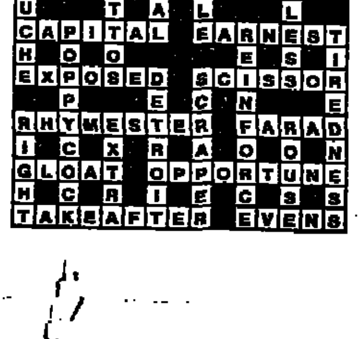
DEFENERATION
(a) Usury
(b) Throwing out of a window
(c) Depilation

RES NULLIUS
(a) A trifle; nugatory
(b) Unowned property
(c) The King of Fools

STRAW BOSS
(a) A self-important martinet
(b) A baking machine
(c) A second-in-command

Answers on page 22, column 1

Solution to Puzzle No 17,628



WEATHER

Scotland and Northern Ireland will be mainly cloudy, with outbreaks of rain, heavy in places and snow on some hills. Wales and south-west England will have rain, possibly heavy and prolonged for a time, becoming more showery with some bright spells later in the day. Other areas will have showers, some heavy and merging to give longer outbreaks, and some bright or sunny intervals. Outlook: changeable.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	15	59	s	Madrid	17	63	s
Akrotiri	18	64	f	Majorca	17	63	f
Alex'dria	27	81	s	Malaga	18	64	f
Algiers	18	64	s	Malta	16	61	s
Amst'dm	7	45	r	Miami*	28	82	f
Athens	14	57	f	Milan	18	64	s
Bahrain	24	75	s	Montreal*	5	41	c
Barbads*	27	81	f	Moscow	5	41	f
Barcelna	16	61	s	Munich	5	41	f
Berlin	6	43	c	Nairobi	24	75	f
Bermuda*	23	73	f	Naples	19	66	s
Biarritz	11	52	f	N York*	12	54	s
Borde'x	11	52	c	Nice	16	61	s
Brussels	7	45	r	Oslo	3	37	r
B Aires*	20	68	d	Paris	9	48	f
Cairo	27	81	s	Prague	4	39	c
Cape Tn	24	75	s	Reykjvik	2	36	f
C'blanca	18	64	s	Rhodes	17	63	f
Chicago*	7	45	s	Rio de J	28	82	s
Cologne	9	48	c	Riyadh	28	82	s
C'phagn	3	37	c	Rome	15	59	s
Corfu	15	59	f	Salzburg	3	37	sl
Dublin	10	50	c	S Frisco*	15	59	s
Dubrovnik	13	55	s	Santiago*	26	79	s
Faro	17	63	s	S Paulo*	30	86	c
Frankfurt	10	50	c	Seoul	12	54	c
Geneva	8	46	c	St'kholm	5	41	f
Gibraltar	18	64	c	Strasb'rg	9	48	f
Helsinki	1	34	sn	Tangier	21	70	s
Innsbrck	6	43	c	Tel aviv	22	72	s
Istanbul	10	50	r	Tenerife	19	66	f
Jo'burg*	25	77	c	Toronto*	1	34	sn
L Palmas	20	68	s	Vanc'ver*	7	45	s
Le Tquet	9	48	c	Venice	14	57	s
Lisbon	18	64	s	Vienna	7	45	f
Locarno	15	59	s	Warsaw	9	48	f
L Angels*	21	70	s	Wash'ton*	12	54	s
Luxembg	7	45	c	Zurich	7	45	f

* denotes Sunday's figures are latest available

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F	
Scarboro	5.2	0.01	10	50	sunny
Hunstanton	1.7	-	9	48	cloudy
Cromer	1.7	-	8	46	cloudy
Lowestoft	1.7	.02	10	50	shower
Clacton	1.5	-	11	52	cloudy
Folkestone	1.7	-	12	54	bright
Hastings	5.8	-	11	52	bright
Eastbourne	6.2	-	12	54	sunny
Brighton	3.7	-	12	54	bright
Worthing	6.3	-	13	55	sunny
Littlehmptn	7.9	-	14	57	sunny
Bognor R	7.3	-	13	55	sunny
Southsea	7.6	-	14	57	sunny
Sandown	10.1	-	13	55	sunny
Bournemth	8.8	-	13	55	sunny
Weymouth	8.0	-	13	55	sunny
Exmouth	9.1	-	12	54	sunny
Teignmouth	10.5	-	13	55	sunny
Torquay	8.5	-	14	57	sunny
Penzance	8.3	-	12	54	sunny
Scilly Isles	8.3	-	12	54	sunny
Newquay	8.7	-	12	54	sunny
Ilfracombe	*	-	10	50	sunny
Minehead	8.7	.06	11	52	sunny
Morecambe	10.0	-	10	50	sunny
Douglas	*	.02	11	52	sunny
Carlisle	5.5	-	12	54	sunny
Nottingham	7.2	.11	11	52	sunny
Anglesey	9.4	-	12	54	sunny
Tenby	8.9	.01	12	54	sunny
Aberdeen	4.1	.02	10	50	shower
Eskdalemuir	7.6	.02	10	50	sunny
Lerwick	8.9	-	9	48	sunny
Prestwick	7.8	-	11	52	sunny
Stornoway	7.5	.22	11	52	sunny
Wick	6.5	-	10	50	sunny

* Denotes figures not available
These are Sunday's figures

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	—	—	12.42	6.1
Aberdeen	12.09	3.4	12.08	3.4
Avonmouth	5.40	10.1	6.09	10.6
Belfast	9.39	3.0	10.22	2.8
Cardiff	5.25	9.5	5.54	9.8
Devonport	4.01	4.4	4.46	4.3
Dover	10.11	5.3	10.15	5.6
Falmouth	3.31	4.2	4.18	4.1
Glasgow	11.21	4.1	—	—
Harwich	10.41	3.4	10.53	3.3
Holyhead	9.19	4.7	9.47	4.6
Hull	5.12	5.7	5.19	6.1
Ilfracombe	4.42	7.3	5.10	7.4
Leith	1.16	4.5	1.40	4.6
Liverpool	10.03	7.8	10.29	7.9
Lowestoft	8.49	2.1	8.27	2.1
Margate	11.06	4.0	11.06	4.0
Milford Haven	4.59	5.6	5.26	5.7
Newquay	3.54	5.7	4.20	5.7
Oban	5.03	3.2	5.18	3.2
Penzance	3.08	4.4	3.50	4.3
Portland	5.13	1.5	6.07	1.5
Portsmouth	10.17	3.7	10.51	4.0
Shoreham	10.02	4.8	10.30	5.3
Southampton	9.52	3.6	10.25	3.9
Swansea	4.59	7.4	5.30	7.6
Tees	2.33	4.3	2.41	4.5
W'ton-on-Nze	10.38	3.5	10.49	3.5

Tide measured in metres: 1m=3.2808ft. Times are BST

THE POUND

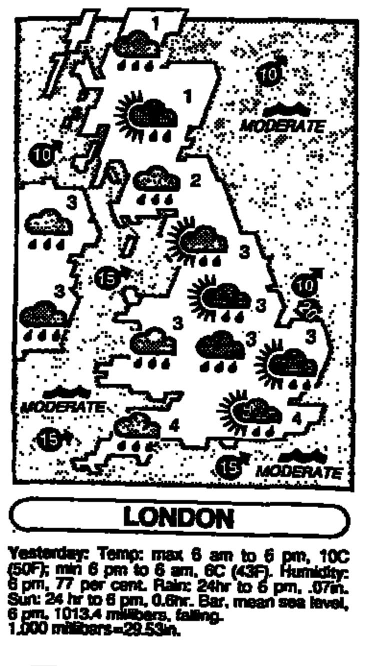
	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.60	2.46
Austria Sch	22.40	21.30
Belgium Fr	67.05	63.75
Canada $	2.385	2.265
Denmark Kr	12.26	11.66
Finland Mkk	7.74	7.34
France Fr	10.78	10.28
Germany Dm	3.195	3.035
Greece Dr	259	239
Hong Kong $	14.90	14.15
Ireland Pt	1.198	1.138
Italy Lira	2355	2245
Japan Yen	240	228
Netherlands Gld	3.575	3.405
Norway Kr	12.05	11.45
Portugal Esc	260	247
South Africa Rd	4.50	4.00
Spain Pta	212.75	201.75
Sweden Kr	11.32	10.77
Switzerland Fr	2.635	2.505
USA $	1.925	1.835
Yugoslavia Dnr	2870	2270

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

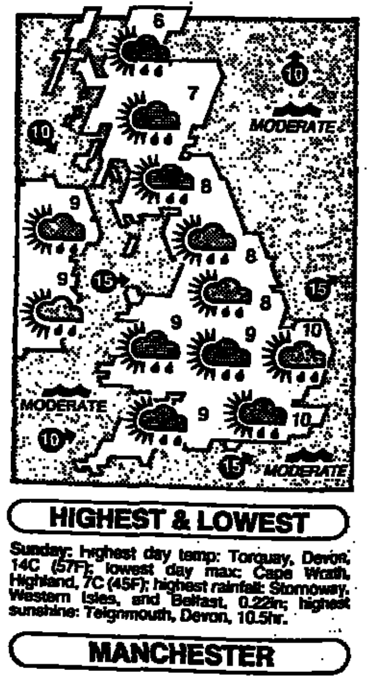
Retail Price Index: 103.7 (February).

London: The *FT* index closed down 13.9 at 1394.4.

AM



PM



LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 10C (50F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 6C (43F). Humidity: 6 pm, 77 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, .07in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.6hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1013.4 millibars, falling.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Sunday: highest day temp: Torquay, Devon, 14C (57F); lowest day max: Cape Wrath, Highland, 7C (45F); highest rainfall: Stornoway, Western Isles, and Belfast, 0.22in; highest sunshine: Teignmouth, Devon, 10.5hr.

LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 7.59 pm to 6.10 am
Bristol 8.09 pm to 6.20 am
Edinburgh 8.15 pm to 6.18 am
Manchester 8.09 pm to 6.17 am
Penzance 8.20 pm to 6.33 am

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 11C (52F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 5C (41F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.25in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 4hr.

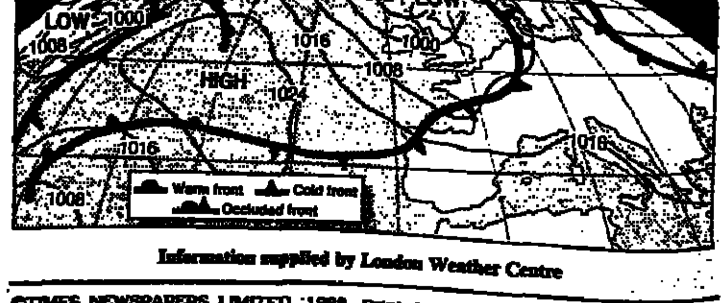
Sun rises: 6.43 am
Sun sets: 7.29 pm
Moon sets 5.44 am
Moon rises 3.17 pm
Full Moon April 2

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	8	46	f	Guernsey	8	46	r
B'rmgham	8	46	r	Inverness	7	45	f
Blackpool	10	50	s	Jersey	9	48	r
Bristol	9	48	c	London	9	48	r
Cardiff	9	48	r	M'nchster	10	50	f
Edinburgh	7	45	f	Newcastle	10	50	f
Glasgow	9	48	f	R'nldsway	10	50	s

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by London Weather Centre

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مكبرا من الاصل

PART 2

TUESDAY MARCH 29 1988

THE TIMES

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1394.4 (–13.9)

FT-SE 100
1746.5 (–21.4)

Bargains
34585 (31584)

USM (Datastream)
145.2 (–3.19)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.8575 (+0.0215)

W German mark
3.0825 (+0.0054)

Trade-weighted
77.1 (+0.4)

Profits rise to £61.8m at Slough

Slough Estates, Britain's largest industrial property developer, stands to reap £100 million from the Budget changes. Sir Nigel Mobbs, the chairman, says the effect of the tax changes to capital gains legislation reduces the group's potential tax liability on asset disposals at their revalued amounts from £200 million to £100 million.

Pretax profit in the year ended December rose from £49.6 million to £61.8 million, and the group's net asset value rose from 228p to 287p a share. Profits were helped by £12 million (£1.8 million) from trading properties, but restricted by £2.4 million because of adverse exchange rates.

A final dividend of 4.5p makes 7.3p (6.5p) for the year. The shares eased by 11p to 264p. **Tempus, page 28**

ESN shop buy

Woolworth has raised £10.65 million in a sale and leaseback deal with Electricity Supply Nominees, the property arm of the electricity supply industry's pension fund. ESN has bought 10 retail properties which will continue to trade as Woolworth stores.

TI Group sells

TI Group, the specialist engineering company, has sold its Canadian subsidiary to a management group for £2.5 million. The business, which manufactures loading bay equipment, operates in Dallas, Texas, as well as in Toronto and London, Ontario.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	
Dow Jones	1976.96 (–1.99)*
Tokyo	
Nikkei Average	25822.71 (+301.99)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	2466.78 (–35.15)
Amsterdam: Gen	236.4 (–5.5)
Sydney: AO	1380.2 (–44.8)
Frankfurt:	
Commerzbank	1341.8 (–38.1)
Brussels:	
General	4886.9 (–73.5)
Paris: CAC	287.1 (–4.9)
Zurich: SKA Gen	425.1 (–34.2)
London:	
FT.–A All-Share	898.61 (–11.03)
FT.– "500"	987.06 (–12.1)
FT. Gold Mines	240.6 (–2.6)
FT. Fixed interest	97.68 (+0.07)
FT. Govt Secs	90.18 (–0.06)
Recent Issues	**Page 29**
Closing prices	**Page 31**

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
Gresham House	450p (+25p)
HJ Quick	292p (+12p)
Pearson	675p (+15p)
L Joseph	437½p (+13p)
G Wimpey	255p (+11p)
Turnbull Scott	675p (+10p)
Beauford Group	135p (+10p)
FALLS:	
Body Shop	475p (–35p)
Reuters	487½p (–20p)
Prudential	827½p (–20p)
Lucas	553½p (–14p)
Consolidated Gold	885p (–20p)
BAT	425p (–15p)
Campari	276½p (–18p)
Standard Chart	424½p (–15p)
Yorkshire TV	168p (–15p)
Etam	255p (–20p)
Rank Organisation	675p (–12p)
Eucalyptus Pulp	665p (–60p)
Polly Peck	251½p (–11p)
Closing prices	

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 8½%
3-month Interbank $8^{13}/_{16}$-8¾%
3-month eligible bills: $8^{13}/_{32}$-$8^{11}/_{32}$% buying rate
US: Prime Rate 8½%
Federal Funds 6¾%*
3-month Treasury Bills 5.66-5.65%*
30-year bonds $101^{9}/_{32}$-$101^{11}/_{32}$*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.8575	£: $1.8595*
£: DM3.0825	$: DM1.6603*
£: SwFr2.5457	$: SwFr1.3713*
£: FFr10.4522	$: FFr5.6270*
£: Yen230.70	$: Yen124.23*
£: Index:77.1	$: Index:92.6
ECU £0.671411	SDR £0.750615

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $453.10 pm-$453.90
close $454.00-454.50 (£244.50-255.00)
New York:
Comex $453.90-454.40*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (May) pm $15.75bbl ($15.55)
* Denotes latest trading price

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☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Heron poised for US sale

Ronson considers offers for $113m savings bank

By Graham Searjeant

Mr Gerald Ronson's Heron International is negotiating the possible sale of the group's principal financial operation in the United States, the Pima Savings and Loan Association, of Tucson, Arizona.

Heron has appointed Salomon Brothers to act in talks with a number of possible buyers who have expressed interest recently, a statement issued in the US revealed. Mr Alan Goldman, a director of Heron International, said the group did not wish to say anything further at this stage.

Pima has been one of Mr Ronson's greatest success stories. It was bought for $24 million eight years ago, when it had earnings of about $2.5 million. In 1985, Pima made pretax profits of $27 million. In 1986, the latest period covered in the group accounts, deposits grew to $1.8 billion and Pima's net worth rose to $113 million (£61 million).

But profits fell back to $20 million, partly due to increased loan losses. Mr Ronson warned that the Arizona commercial property market had deteriorated due to overbuilding.

Earlier, Mr Ronson used Pima for his biggest coup in the United States, the purchase of 12,500 acres of potential development land around Tucson.

Heron also owns the Western American Finance Bank, a mortgage bank, in Phoenix, Arizona, and has substantial property interests in New York and on the West Coast of the US as well as in Arizona.

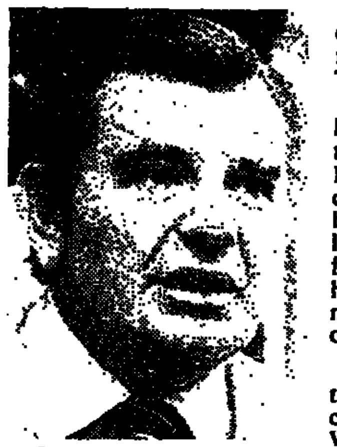
In March 1987, Heron backed a $93 million road development scheme to open up 48,000 acres outside Phoenix and raise the value of land in which Pima had an interest. There were also plans to expand into Phoenix.

Pima has 40 per cent of the savings market in Pima County, which includes Tucson, and built a new $15 million headquarters in 1986.

The Federal Home Loan Bank Board in Washington has to approve the sale of savings and loan banks with federal deposit guarantees but said no proposed change of ownership had yet been filed.

The FHLBB or the Arizona Banking Commission would also be able to insist on a change of ownership if it were worried about the owner or the bank's finances.

Heron International, one of the biggest private groups in the country, made £50 million pretax profit in the year to March 1987, and its accounts showed a strong balance sheet with £250 million in investments and cash.



Success story: Ronson scored a coup with Pima

But last October, Mr Ronson withdrew a £50 million Eurobond issue after his arrest on charges connected to the Guinness affair.

Earlier yesterday, Heron announced moves to strengthen the board of Heron Trading, the holding company for operations that include import and distribution concessions for Lancia and Suzuki, the Heron Motor Group and Heron's petrol retailing and freight interests.

Five new directors from within the group joined the board, including the Heron International director Mr Michael Marx and the managing directors of the freight and petrol businesses.

Mr Ronson said the appointments were necessary to maintain the pace of Heron Trading's expansion.

Heron also sold 61 public houses at an undisclosed price to Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries, which already owns more than 750 public houses, mainly in the Midlands. The properties come from a package of 210 public houses Heron bought only last month from Grand Metropolitan.

The additions are mainly in the Midlands and the Manchester area and will extend Wolverhampton & Dudley's coverage to an area east of Leicester.

Koppers subsidiaries may be sold to thwart Beazer offer

From Lawrence Lever, Los Angeles

Mr Charles Pullin, the chairman of the US Koppers Co, which is under siege from Beazer, the British housebulider, said that Koppers is holding talks on the possible sale of its building materials and cement company to a third party.

According to the *Los Angeles Times*, Mr Pullin said in a written statement that the discussions were being held with "a number of third parties." The move is a clear attempt to thwart Beazer's $1.7 billion (£917.43 million) tender offer for the company.

But the discussions with third parties are merely one option that the company is considering in order to escape Beazer.

Alternatives under consideration include a recapitalization which allows the company to remain independent, and the purchase of a stake in another company.

A consortium of banks has already agreed to lend $1 billion for a recapitalization which would involve making a cash payment to Koppers' shareholders.

In a separate development, the US District Court in Los Angeles granted an order preventing BNS, the company through which Beazer is making the bid, from buying any Koppers' shares until April 4. Koppers is expected to seek a permanent injunction blocking the tender offer.

Koppers argues that antitrust laws should block the bid.

Guinness share deal decision

Guinness will learn today whether it has succeeded in its High Court battle against a ruling by the City Takeover Panel which could cost it millions of pounds.

The Panel decided last September that the brewing and spirits group had breached the City Code on takeovers and mergers through a £76 million secret shares deal which allegedly took place during the 1986 bid battle for Distillers, the drinks group.

It found that Pipetec, a Swiss company, acted in concert with Guinness during the bid. If Guinness fails to get the Panel's decision quashed it may have to pay out £100 million to former Distillers shareholders.

Shares or dividend offer by Midland

By Our Banking Correspondent

Midland Bank is planning to offer new shares instead of this year's cash dividend to its shareholders, if the scrip dividend scheme is approved at the bank's general meeting next month.

The scheme is rare among British banks, although Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, the far eastern bank which bought 14.9 per cent of Midland last year, regularly gives shares.

Under the Midland scheme, shareholders would be able to choose whether to receive the 20.1p dividend for 1987, unchanged from the previous year, in cash or shares.

The value of the shares will be taken from the average price of Midland stock in the first five days of share dealing after the cash dividend is paid. The bank also wants the option to offer a scrip dividend alternative for the 1988 interim dividend.

Midland argues that the scheme will benefit the bank because a substantial part of the £90 million due to be paid out in dividends would be retained and there would be a reduction in advance coporation tax.

Meanwhile, Midland's annual report and accounts revealed that the bank's highest paid executive, Mr Herve de Carmoy, the head of international banking, received £748,458.

Hit show company scores around the world

Tapping out a useful £2.8m

By Joe Joseph

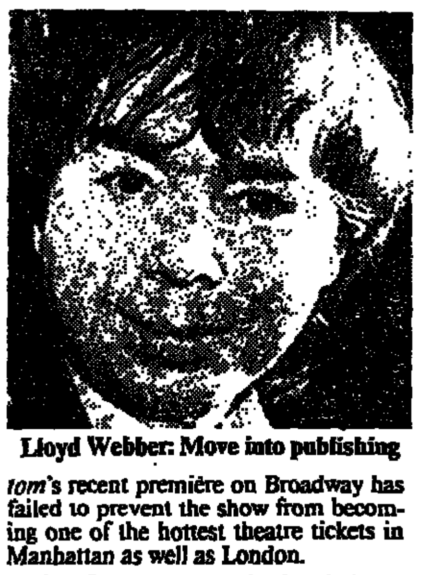
The Really Useful Group, the company set up to tap the commercial talents of Mr Andrew Lloyd Webber, continues to reap the success of the composer's ability to turn foot-tapping tunes into long-running hits like *Cats* and *Starlight Express* that break records from Broadway to Budapest.

Profits in the six months to December 31 rose from £2.51 million to £2.87 million on turnover of £11.62 million, with sales of the cast album of *The Phantom Of The Opera*, Mr Lloyd Webber's most recent box office success, swelling profits from the group's record and music publishing division.

Mr Lloyd Webber, who recently hired Prince Edward as a junior factotum, is penning the final quavers of his newest project, which is based on *Aspects Of Love*, a 1940s novel by David Garnett.

Mr Keith Turner, a Really Useful director, said: "We will be giving it a workshop try-out in the coming months before putting it on stage in London either this autumn or next spring."

A less than rapturous welcome from some New York critics for *The Phantom*'s recent première on Broadway has failed to prevent the show from becoming one of the hottest theatre tickets in Manhattan as well as London.



Lloyd Webber: Move into publishing

Like *Cats*, Mr Lloyd Webber's latest musical, set in the Paris Opera House, is likely to keep Really Useful's tills ringing for years yet. *Phantom* in London recovered its costs in November, while the New York production opened with advance bookings of $19 million. The show opens in Japan next month and Austria later this year.

The Really Useful Group has been much in the headlines in the past few weeks as a result of its move into book publishing by acquiring Aurum Press. Aurum is the publisher of Mr Tom Bower's controversial biography, *Maxwell: The Outsider*.

The book's subject, Mr Robert Maxwell, the publisher, is trying hard to keep the title off Britain's bookshelves after succeeding last week in getting another study of himself — *Maxwell: A Portrait Of Power* by Mr Peter Thompson and Mr Anthony Delano — pulped. Aurum and Mr Bower both intend to defend any action for alleged libel brought in the courts by Mr Maxwell, but meanwhile many bookshops are wary of stocking the book.

Is Prince Edward enjoying the hubbub of his new surroundings? "I think so," says Mr Turner. "He is getting on very well indeed. He is learning the business." Is he a useful member of the team? "Distinctly."

Profits increase 25% to £151.8m

Echoing the future: Lord Blakenham, Pearson chairman, believes French deal will go through (Photograph: John Rogers)

Pearson 'nears Les Echos win'

By Carol Ferguson

Pearson, the publishing and financial group, is confident that it is close to clinching a deal to buy *Les Echos*, the French financial daily newspaper.

Lord Blakenham, the chairman, said the outlook was very good and the deal was likely to be concluded soon after the French general elections in May.

"We have signed contracts and it is likely to be a matter of timing rather than whether it takes place," he said.

The French government had moved to block the acquisition on the grounds that, since The News Corporation, run by Mr Rupert Murdoch, owns 20.5 per cent of Pearson, ownership of the French newspaper would pass into non-EEC hands.

However, Mr James Joll, Pearson's finance director, said the group was encouraged by the European Commission's stand that it qualifies as an EEC company if it is EEC-based.

Pearson's pretax profits, earnings and dividends all rose by 25 per cent last year. The £30 million rise in pretax profits to £151.8 million was helped by a £14 million swing in interest costs from a charge of £11 million to interest income of £3 million this year.

The group's information and entertainment division, accounting for 60 per cent of trading profits, did particularly well, rising 27 per cent to £89.4 million.

Mr Frank Barlow, the chief executive of the *Financial Times*, said advertising revenue from tombstones and company prospectuses had dried up, but that there had been substitution of trade and classified advertising.

He said 200 planned redundancies on the composing side had been made ahead of schedule, and another 200 print workers would leave in the summer when the move to the East India Dock was completed.

Earnings per share rose from 37.4p to 46.7p and the dividend rises by 3p to 15p net. The City was pleasantly surprised by the results and marked up the shares 15p to 675p against a falling market.

The company said the acquisition of Addison Wesley Publishing, the US publisher, made Pearson the fifth-largest English language publisher, and meant that both Penguin, with the New English Library, and Longman had an international presence.

The company said negotiations were proceeding with Fairfax to take a large stake in the *Australian Financial Review*. Mr Barlow has said he would be interested in buying not less than 50 per cent of the newspaper. **Tempus, page 28**

Meurice is put on the market

From Susan MacDonald
Paris

Inter-Continental, owned by Grand Metropolitan, is selling the Hotel Meurice in Paris.

The sale, in line with Inter-Continental's streamlining operation begun in 1981, is a chance for a French organization to buy into the prestigious hotel market in a city where the majority of the best-known hotels are in foreign hands.

The number one in the French field, Accor, is said to be interested in buying this historical hotel on the Rue du Rivoli opposite the Tuileries.

When Inter-Continental was taken over from Pan-Am by Grand Metropolitan in 1981, it found itself with no less than six large hotels in Paris. Of these, the Lotti, the Prince de Galles and the Penta have already been disposed of.

Its two main hotels now are the Inter-Continental and the Grand Hotel, Place de l'Opera.

The sale is being handled by the Paris office of Jones Laing Wootton.

The reserve price for The Meurice is reported to be 250 million francs (£23.87 million).

Tokyo licence for Smith New Court

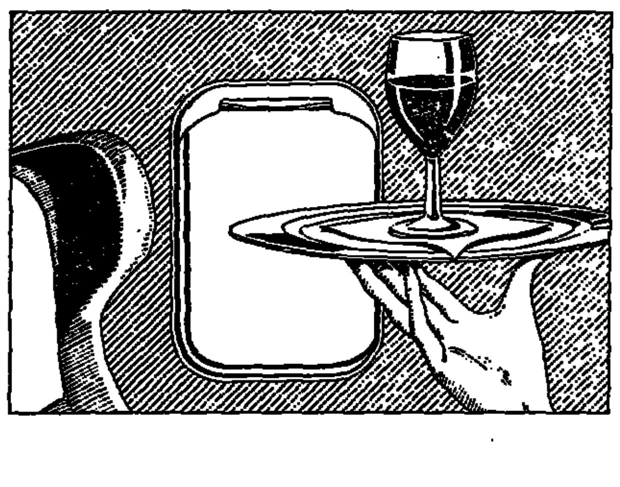
By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Smith New Court, the equities dealing and broking firm, is one of two foreign companies to have been granted a securities licence in Japan. The new licences bring the total of foreign stockbrokers in Tokyo to 45.

Smith New Court and BNP Securities will be allowed to open full stockbroking branches in Tokyo next month. The licence enables the companies to transact broking business within Japan and increases the amount of commission they receive on each deal by about half.

The licences are among the swiftest to have been granted by the Japanese Ministry of Finance, since Smith New Court set up a representative office in Tokyo less than 18 months ago. The firm does not, however, yet have plans to apply for a full seat on the Tokyo stock exchange which would allow it to deal as a market-maker in the Japanese market.

Smith New Court already has a substantial far eastern broking operation based in Hong Kong.



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TAP AIR PORTUGAL

Brent hits £9.1m as it goes for growth

By Alison Eadie

Brent Chemicals International, the speciality chemicals group, made pretax profits in the year to end-December of £9.1 million, a rise of 24 per cent. Turnover rose 20 per cent to £70.6 million.

Just under half the profits growth came from acquisitions. The currency effect was neutral, with the lower dollar offset by higher European currencies.

The surface technology division had an excellent year, while the food, beverage and packaging division achieved good profits growth.

Brent is continuing to look for acquisitions, particularly in the US and Europe electronics sector. The company makes chemicals for the manufacture of printed circuit boards.

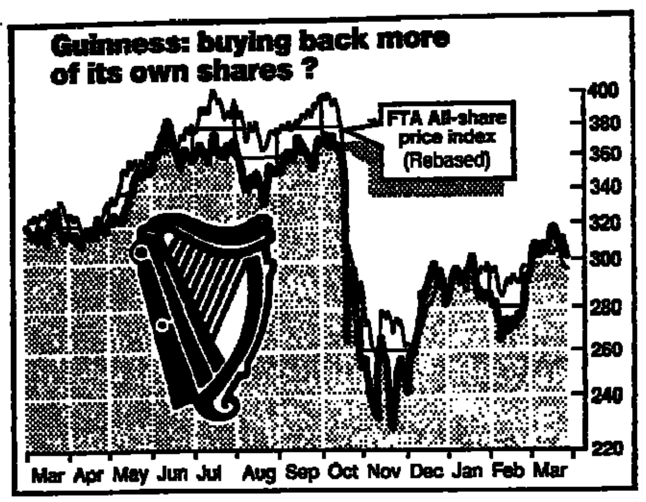
The outlook for growth is encouraging.

Brent has changed the weighting of its business in the past four years from mature industries into growth areas. It expects 24 per cent of its sales to come from the packaging sector this year — compared with 5 per cent in 1984 — and 13 per cent from printed ciruit board manufacture, compared with 2 per cent.

Earnings per share rose 11 per cent to 11.5p and the total dividend was increased by 14 per cent to 5.2p

STOCK MARKET

Wall Street blues push prices down



Guinness: buying back more of its own shares ?

Another disappointing performance on Wall Street saw share prices in London beating another ragged retreat yesterday and closing near their worst levels of the day.

This came after disappointing performances in New York and Tokyo during the weekend. Tokyo managed to claw back most of Friday's losses but this failed to cheer London which spent another hesitant session with fund managers anchored firmly on the sidelines.

Anglo United shareholders have voted for the Burnett & Hallamshire rescue deal that will see its coal interests exchanged with B&H's non-mining operations. B&H holders meet next week. The shares are expected to return to market on April 8 and B&H should open at 10p against 7½p at suspension.

Trading was slow with only 363.7 million shares traded by 4pm. Brokers claim the institutions are content to remain liquid with their money in the bank. Professional investors are keeping their cash outside the equity market. Liquidity levels of about 8 per cent are some of the highest seen in the past few years and there is clearly no rush to plough the spare funds back into the equity market.

Share prices on Wall Street opened lower again in resumed trading after the weekend break with the Dow Jones industrial average losing 16.25 points in early trading. As a result prices in London were again drifting in after-hours trading, with the FT-SE 100 finishing the day 21.4 down at 1,746, having been 29.6 lower.

The narrower FT index of 30 shares closed above its worst levels with a fall of 13.9 at 1,394.4, having been 20.2 down at its worst point.

The latest industrial survey from the Confederation of British Industry made encouraging reading, showing order books at their highest level since 1977. But the equity market discounted the news.

Government securities remained a dull market with losses stretching to £⅛ worried by the prospect of higher US interest rates in the wake of the US dollar's latest fall against the pound.

Leading shares bore the brunt of the markdown with double figure losses among many leading exporters worried by their uncompetitiveness after the dollar's latest bout of weakness.

Imperial Chemical Industries lost 20p at £9.99, while falls were also seen in **BAT Industries**, 15p to 425p, and **Great Universal Stores "A"** 26p to £10.53.

Guinness managed to resist the downward pull elsewhere in the market closing virtually unchanged on the day at 304p as 1.1 million shares changed hands.

There was talk among dealers that the company was again buying back its own shares. Last year it obtained permission from shareholders to buy back up to 83 million shares, or 10 per cent of the issued capital. According to Mr Victor McColl, drinks expert at Kleinwort Grieveson, the broker, the company had bought about 13 million shares in the period up to January.

Last week Guinness produced full-year figures showing pretax profits up from £355 million to £408 million and announced that it planned to hit the acquisition trail again over the next couple of years.

Guinness will be back in the High Court again today to hear the judgement of its appeal against the extra payment to Distillers' shareholders after the 1986 takeover.

Tempus 28
World markets 29

Allied-Lyons, the drinks and food group, was another firm market in the drinks sector climbing 4p to 373p amid renewed stories that **Bond Corporation**, the Australian brewer headed by Mr Alan Bond, was adding to its holding. TC Coombes, the broker, was said to have been a big buyer of the shares and has acted on behalf of Mr Bond in the past. At the last count, Mr Bond held almost 3 per cent of the equity but has gone out of his way to deny recent reports that he has been adding to his holding.

Nevertheless, the market feels he may consider launching a full bid, at some stage.

It was not the best day for a couple of new issues to make their debut. MTL, the instruments group, made a cautious start on the Unlisted Securities Market after a placing of 3 million shares by Chase Manhattan Securities, the broker, last week at 73p. The price ended the day just 3p higher at 76p.

Making its move from the Business Expansion Scheme to the USM was **Resort Hotels**, the hotel operator. The shares were placed at 14p and and finished with a 3p premium at 17p.

MS International slipped 3p to 117p after seeing off the unwanted bid from Dobson Park, the mining equipment group, which now owns about 36 per cent of the shares after purchases in the market. **Dobson Park** also ended the day on a dull note with a fall of 5p to 99p.

Ashtead Group, the USM-quoted plant hire group, was another casualty of yesterday's shakeout in spite of another "buy" circular from County NatWest, the broking arm of the NatWest Bank. Mr Andrew Holland and Miss Michele Delmain, the analysts, are urging clients to buy the share aggressively.

Last week Ashtead announced the acquisition of Power Products for £1.7 million satisfied by the issue of 400,000 shares at 425p.

Power Products is forecasting pretax profits of £250,000 for the year to March just ending. The group boasts assets of £952,000 and County points out there is a book surplus on property assets of £250,000.

Phillips & Drew, the stockbroker, is a big fan of Tottenham Hotspur, and expects the shares to start outperforming. Last week it reported £1 million pretax profits. P&D is looking for a similar result this year and expects the bulk from non-footballing activities. The price fell 7p to 111p.

County is not looking for any sort of contribution from Power Products in the current year but expects pretax profits at Ashtead to grow from £1 million to £2.8 million where the prospective p/e falls from 38.8 to 16.7. It claims the shares are undervalued and is now looking for a price of about 500p a share.

Michael Clark

Profits at Myson rise 18.5% to £20.6m

By Our City Staff

Myson Group, which manufactures central heating boilers, pumps and radiators, made pretax profits of £20.6 million in the year to end-December — a rise of 18.5 per cent — on sales almost unchanged at £158 million.

Efforts to reduce costs in both the residential and industrial divisions were successful and margins rose to 13 per cent from 11 per cent.

Mr Ray Wheeler, the chairman and chief executive, said there was more cost to be stripped out, but the obvious targets had been tackled.

Outstanding areas included integrating and standardizing materials buying.

Sales, which dipped in the latter half of 1986 and first half of 1987 as Myson rationalized the Thorn EMI heating division, increased in the second half and have risen again in the first quarter of this year.

Myson is looking for more "bolt-on" acquisitions at the lighter end of the building materials market. It has no borrowings and cash in the bank.

The dividend was raised by a generous 35 per cent to 5.4p as a catching-up exercise after previous parsimony, Mr Wheeler said.

Earnings per share rose 19.9 per cent to 16.7p.

Body Shop plans to raise £9.6m via share placing

By Alison Eadie

Body Shop International, the natural beauty products retail chain, is raising £9.6 million net of expenses via a placing of 2.026 million new shares at 480p.

The money will be used for additional warehousing and manufacturing capacity in Britain to help the company meet the large increase in demand flowing not just from the home market, but also from Europe, Canada and the Far East. The US already has its own warehousing and manufacturing facilities.

The placing represents 4.8 per cent of the enlarged equity of Body Shop. Mrs Anita Roddick and her husband, Gordon, the co-founders of the company, are to sell some of their shares to dilute their holding to a combined 30.3 per cent of the enlarged equity from its present 34.9 per cent.

They will realize £6.1 million from the sale of 1.26 million shares. Mr Ian McGlinn, another founder shareholder, will also be £6.1 million richer after reducing his shareholding to 30.07 per cent from 34.7 per cent.

The fund-raising exercise is the first conducted by Body Shop, which has spent £6 million from its own resources on warehousing, manufacturing and office space in the five years to the end of last September. The new warehouse complex is expected to cost £10 million to build and equip and should be ready for occupation by August next year.

A placing was chosen as the most cost-effective method of raising money. The shares will go to institutional clients of Capel-Cure Myers, the broker, some of whom are already Body Shop shareholders. The shares fell by 35p yesterday to 475p.

Quality pays at L&M as profits surge 59%

By Michael Tate

London & Metropolitan, which is one of the more substantial of the new generation of property developers to come to the market recently, has reported a 59 per cent increase in pretax profits to £9.06 million for 1987.

The figures include a £1.38 million contribution in respect of receivable interest, against just £254,000 a year ago, reflecting the income earned on the proceeds of last year's £26 million rights issue.

London & Metropolitan, which is chaired by Mr Norman Ireland, and run by Mr David Lewis, the chief executive, is paying a final dividend of 3.25p a share, making 4.75p for the year. Last year it made a single payment of 2p a share. Earnings are up from 12.2p to 15.9p per share.

The company only received a quotation in November 1986, when London & Edinburgh Trust and Balfour Beatty sold half of the shares they owned.

It has made a name for itself as a quality developer and is growing strongly

Mr Lewis says that the company's current developments place it in a strong position to continue to reward its shareholders.

Watts sees progress in clay

By Colin Campbell

Watts, Blake, Bearne and Company, the Devon clay producer, gives warning of price pressures on margins this year but is confident that after a successful 1987 financial year there will be further profits progress in 1988.

Pretax profit in the year ended December rose from £5.46 million to £6.52 million, and a final dividend of 4.15p, making 6.15p (5.3p), is declared. Gross external sales rose from £31.9 million to £38.3 million.

Demand for the group's products both in Britain and West Germany should increase again, despite an expected slow-down in the rates of economic growth for most European economies.

The group aims to expand its European operations by acquisitions in West Germany. The shares eased 4p to 264p.

Ipeco hit by dollar weakness

By Our City Staff

Ipeco Holdings, designer and manufacturer of aircraft crew seats, made lower pretax profits in the year to December 26. The company made £1.3 million, against £3 million the year before, on turnover 27 per cent higher.

The total dividend was reduced to 2p from 2.85p.

The weaker dollar, which knocked £750,000 off profits, and high short-term costs accounted for the fall.

The newer businesses — cargo loading equipment and advanced materials component manufacture — also needed more investment than expected.

Demand remains buoyant and Ipeco expects aircraft seat output to rise by up to 30 per cent. Adverse fluctuations in the dollar's value should be offset by economies of scale from Ipeco Europe's high production rates.

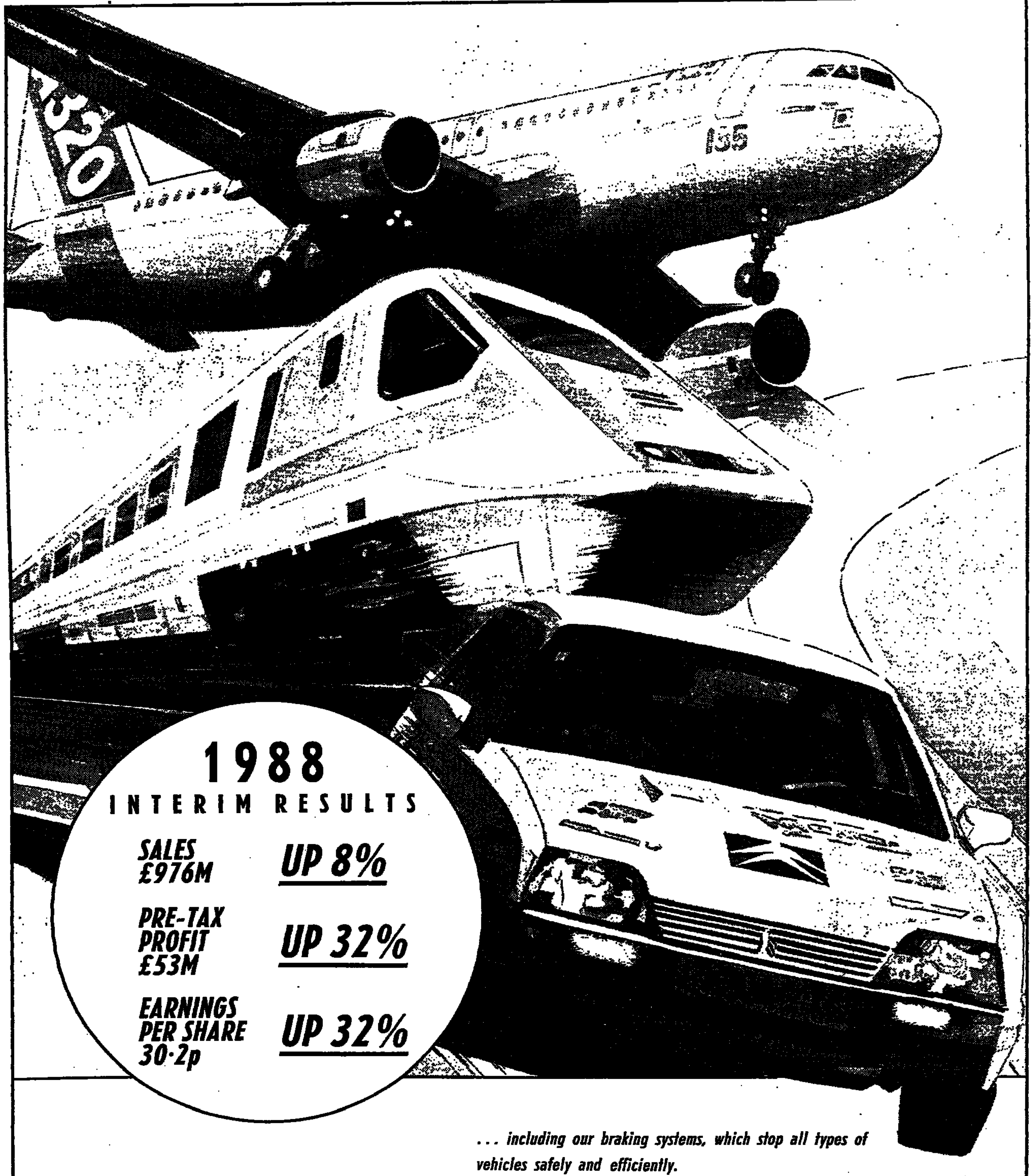
Royal chief's £203,952

By Our City Staff

Mr Alan Horsford, the chief executive of Royal Insurance, has had a salary increase of £86,647 — from £117,305 to £203,952 — according to the annual report and accounts.

The rise comes as group pretax profits fell last year to £274 million from £304.8 million, caused by worldwide weather losses of £231 million.

Royal's five non-British subsidiaries all achieved greatly improved profitability, but Britain bore the brunt of £197 million of exceptional weather losses.



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صكذا من الاجل

Laing tops £45m despite low construction profits

By Alexandra Jackson

The extremely low level of profitability in the construction industry was highlighted by results from John Laing, one of the leading building companies.

Pretax profits rose from £38.1 million to £45.7 million, on turnover up from £877.6 million to £1,071 million.

The traditional construction activities, however, contributed only 22 per cent of trading profits, despite generating 77 per cent of turnover.

While the nature of the industry means annual turnover does not directly relate to the profits recognized in that year, margins at 1.3 per cent are pitifully slim.

Housebuilding, a higher margin activity, was the largest profit centre, accounting for £35.5 million of the £48 million trading profits.

Martin Laing: Budget boost

The overall buoyancy in the market, particularly in the South-east where Laing Homes is best represented, helped, but so did a better mix of units.

The average house price rose 22 per cent to £56,000, reflecting market movements as well as a reduction in the proportion of starter homes — now making up 40 per cent of sales.

Laing's "Superhomes" business, which sells kits containing all the fittings for a house apart for the outside shell, sold 750 units last year.

This business developed from the group's own timber-framed housing operation and is more profitable than straight housebuilding.

Retirement homes were strong during 1987 and accounted for 500 of the 3.000 units sold by the housing division.

The US also made a profit contribution, with 300 units sold there during the year. Laing has plans to set up another greenfield operation in the eastern United States.

Mr Martin Laing, the chairman, said there was no signs as yet of the housing market turning down.

Indeed, Mr Laing said he expected the Budget move to end joint mortgage relief on one property to temporarily boost the starter homes market before the change takes effect in August.

The group has a strong balance sheet with £14.5 million of net cash. However, Laing's ambitions to build up another division to counterbalance its housing activities may have led the group into a geared position by year end.

Possible areas of interest to Laing are leisure and building products.

Earnings per share rose from 30p to 34.3p. A final dividend of 5p was declared, making a total of 7p for the year, an increase of 23 per cent.

Opec oil price meeting fixed

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

April 9 has been set by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries as the date for its emergency committee meeting to review world oil prices.

A full ministerial meeting could follow four days later to discuss a new set of official output quotas, which the cartel hopes will help send the world oil price upwards.

At present oil prices are still more than $2 below the official Opec target price of $18 a barrel with indications that with spring and summer consumption levels approaching the price could drop further.

The Opec monitoring committee will meet in Vienna on April 9, according to member oil ministers.

However, under Opec rules, any member state can attend committee meetings and there are signs that some countries which are not nominated members of the committee are preparing to send their oil ministers to Vienna.

The committee is made up of Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, Nigeria and Algeria, but other oil ministers have made bookings in hotels in Vienna, where Opec is based.

The Muslim holy month of Ramadan starts on April 18, so any full ministerial meeting which starts on April 13 would have to be brief.

Oil traders say that the meeting would have to be short, but also conclusive, if it is to affect the oil price. At present Opec is not due to have a full meeting until June 8 and already some contracts are being placed for oil deliveries during June.

However, new official output figures from Opec due for publication this week will show that while almost all members are sticking to their quotas Abu Dhabi has been guilty of over-producing and has pushed the daily average Opec output during the first quarter of this year to just above 18 million barrels a day compared with the official quota of just more than 15 million barrels a day plus the 2.3 million barrels a day which Iraq is producing.

The non Opec producers — Egypt, Malaysia, Mexico, Oman, China and Colombia — are likely to tell the Opec committee that they will trim output, but only if Opec agrees to an across-the-board production cut.

COMMENT David Brewerton

Macarthy's special pink prescription

The man in the chemist shop gives a little cough and hands over a pink form to the pharmacist. His fellow customers imagine he is seeking a remedy for his ailment, and that the pink form will yield a bottle of medicine, a plastic spoon, and some sympathetic advice from the pharmacist. But they are wrong. He is there on behalf of Macarthy, the pharmaceutical wholesaler trying to take over UniChem, and the pink form is part of the campaign being waged to weaken Unichem's resolve to resist.

UniChem is the most successful of the pharmaceutical wholesalers, in that it is taking accounts from its two big rivals, AAH and Macarthy. Over the past month, it claims to have acquired hundreds of accounts from them, and neither AAH nor Macarthy is amused. So they have wheeled in the big guns.

This year, one or other of them has taken complaints against UniChem to:

- The Department of Trade and Industry;
- The Office of Fair Trading;
- The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain;
- The Institute of Chartered Accountants; and
- The Securities Association.

Macarthy has gone to UniChem's customers and to its shareholders, questioned the role of its auditors and rubbished a valuation produced by its stockbrokers.

In return, Peter Dodd of UniChem has attacked, often in intemperate language, the record and motives of his competitors.

What lies behind the war is a novel scheme UniChem concocted to generate additional business, under which chemists who gave UniChem their trade would be able to share in the spoils likely to be generated when the company floats on the stock market in 1990. As a business-getting ploy, it has proved an absolute winner, and Macarthy, in particular, is suffering from a loss of market share. Hence the calling in of the various bodies in an attempt to stamp on the scheme.

Meanwhile, Macarthy has put a firm price on the table which at least one respected and unconnected firm of stockbrokers, Robert Fleming, reckons is fair. Pharmaceutical wholesaling is low-quality business: there is no added value, margins are slight, competition rife. A straw poll of institutions conducted by Fleming suggested a single-figure price/earnings ratio, rather than the more fancy "health and pharmaceutical" ratings applied by Phillips & Drew in its valuation.

But the chemists have nothing to lose by filling in the pink form and getting the UniChem management to discuss the merits, or otherwise, of the Macarthy takeover proposal. Equally, there is no reason on earth why UniChem should make it easy for them.

Churning it up for TV

The *Stocks and Shares Show* has ended its 12-week run but the controversy will run a little longer.

The show, screened on Channel 4 on Sunday evenings, was centred on four contestants who each invested an imaginary £10,000 in the stock market, switching their portfolios week by week to generate the maximum capital gain. Each week, the contestants were advised by two "experts," people from the City and financial journalists, who recommended shares.

John Swinfield, who produced and introduced the show, believes there was a serious educational job to be done and that by putting the experts in front of the camera and beaming the show to 750,000 viewers, that role was fulfilled.

That may be the case, but I have to say that my own appearance on the show allowed me little opportunity to educate, except to point out that shares tipped on television are likely to rise as a result. In that, television is little different from newspapers, except that every show carried a "wealth warning" to put the unwary on their guard.

Criticism relates to the show's short-term perspective. No serious investor should buy shares one week only to sell them the next. Any investor who did would find his gains wiped out by dealing charges and by the spreads between bid and offer prices. The rules of the show imposed an unrealistic charge of only £20 for a sale and purchase, which as a result distorted the level of profits that can be achieved by churning investments.

That said, there is nothing inherently *wrong* with churning if that is what investors wish to do. The stock market exists to allow people to buy and sell: its only other purpose is to allow companies to raise new capital, but that can be done as cheaply and efficiently through private placements

The show merely reflects the massive increase in interest in owning shares, and should not be taken too seriously.

Borrie hits at Lautro disclosure

By Vivienne Goldsmith

Sir Gordon Borrie, the Director General of Fair Trading, is concerned about the lack of public information on insurance company expenses.

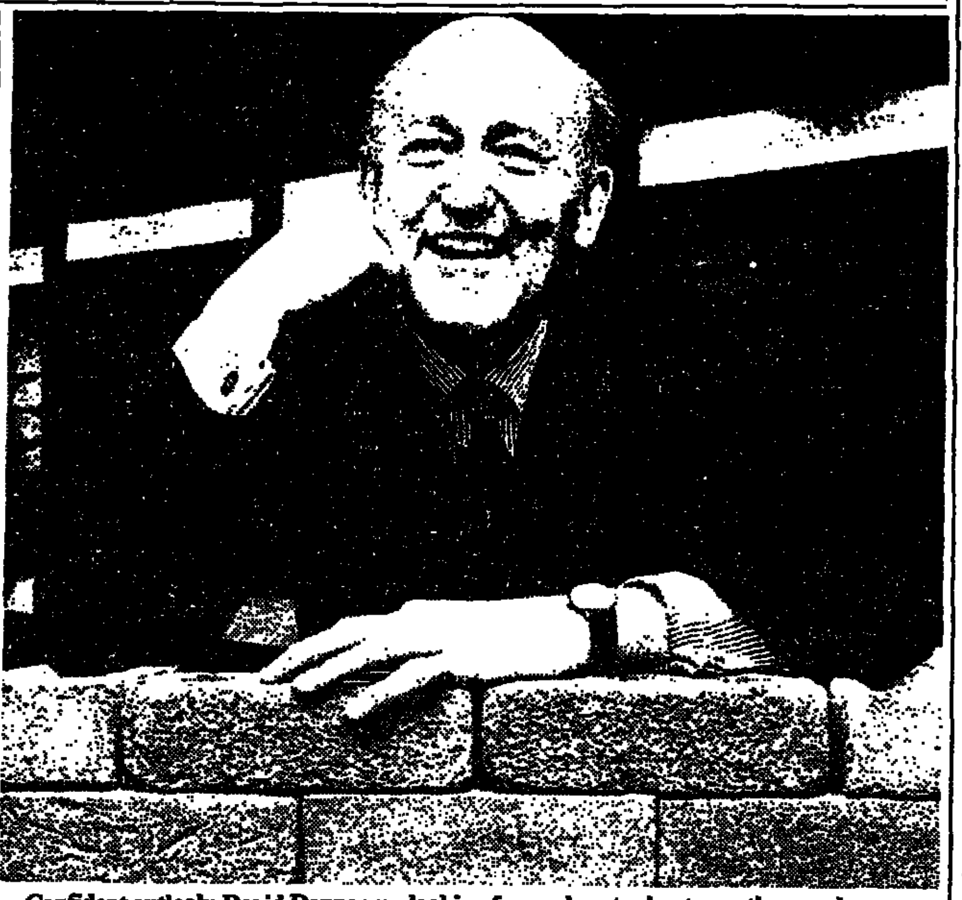
But, in his review of the rule book of the Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organization (Lautro), published yesterday, he has stopped short of saying that the rules on disclosure are anti-competitive.

He hopes that open disclosure of expenses might still come about. The Lautro rule book, which has now been approved by the Securities and Investments Board (SIB) merely asks the insurance companies to set out the value of insurance contracts if they were to be surrendered within the first five years.

Mr John Fry, the membership secretary of Lautro said:"If you take away the values from the sum you invested you know what their expenses were. It is more important for investors to know what they get than what the company's expenses are."

But Sir Gordon is not happy with this. "If the rules have not been modified within a reasonable time to require disclosure, then I shall reconsider the matter and may decide to report that the effects of the present very limited disclosure are likely to be significantly anti-competitive."

The SIB has commissioned an independent study of insurance company disclosure of expenses and charges from Peat Marwick McLintock, the accountant, which is due to be published this week.



Confident outlook: David Donne was looking forward yesterday to another good year

Record £60.3m for Steetley

By Alexandra Jackson

Steetley, the construction materials group, revealed record pretax profits up 36 per cent at £60.3 million, on turnover up from £418.8 million to £486.6 million. Mr David Donne, the chairman, said: "The current year has started well and we have a well-founded confidence and expect to have another successful year."

Earnings per share advanced from 22.6p to 30.9p. A final dividend of 6p was declared, making a total of 9.25p for the year, up 19 per cent. Group margins widened from 12 per cent to 14 per cent and a return on capital of 24 per cent was achieved.

Comparative pretax profits for 1986 were restated downwards by £1.8 million to take account of an accounting change regarding the group's depreciation charge. The 1987 figures were also effected by this factor, so were even better than they first appeared. Brokers' extimates had ranged up to £59 million. However, overall market weakness pushed the share price down 8p to 328p.

A strategic move into the US brick market was made during the year with two acquisitions in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Since the year-end, Steetley has bought several hard rock quarries in France for £25.6 million. This makes the group the largest aggregate company in France with capacity to produce 25 million tonnes of stone.

Tempus, page 28

Low stocks fuel nickel rise

By Colin Narbrough

The price of nickel yesterday continued its record-breaking run, jumping $1,400 (£762) a tonne for immediate delivery to $23,900 on the London Metal Exchange.

News that LME warehouse stocks of the metal — a key component of stainless steel — were at their lowest for five and a half years helped fuel the fresh rise. It follows the sustained climb of recent weeks, attributed mainly to worldwide demand from the steel industry.

A dispute over export duties has also cut shipments from the Dominican Republic, the source of about 3 per cent of the world's nickel, worsening an already tight supply situation.

Strong demand for stainless steel is expected to continue until the second half of this year at least, after which the supply and demand balance should improve, allowing prices for component metals, such as nickel, to ease.

Nickel has led other steel components upwards, provoking higher list prices for stainless steel.

Domestic prices for stainless steel for the second quarter are about £80 per tonne higher than in the current quarter.

SDA plan for seven factories

Seven factories, which could employ up to 150 people, are to be built at the former Gomba Stonefield premises in Cumnock, Ayrshire. The £600,000 project, funded by the Scottish Development Agency, is the second phase of a plan to increase jobs and encourage development in one of Scotland's worst areas of unemployment.

The first phase, an enterprise centre, provides advice on starting a business, including management and marketing support, a training centre and workshop.

Mr Chris Aitken, the SDA's regional director, said: "The new factories will be ideally suited to existing firms who are looking to expand, or for companies moving into the area."

Companies moving in will have access to the enterprise centre and its training facilities. The area has been hard hit with mining closures and the loss of support industries.

Bennett & Fountain at the double

Bennett & Fountain Group, the fast-growing electrical wholesaler and retailer, more than doubled its turnover and pretax profits in the six months to December 31.

The group, a comparative newcomer to the market, lost out to its much larger competitor Dixons in a bid to take over the Sheffield electricals retailer Wigfalls. It chalked up an interim pretax profits rise of 125 per cent to £2.84 million.

Turnover was £31 million, up 110 per cent.

A maiden dividend of 0.3p net was declared.

The company said that in the half year, it had integrated nine acquisitions, adding a total of 50 outlets to the group. Mr Jack Pomper, the chairman, said the group would continue to acquire businesses at prices that reflected their potential.

Sour times for Saudis

The Saudi Arabian royal family may have banned Jeffrey Robinson's book *Yamani: The Inside Story* from its shores, but it seems that a number of extracts have been getting through. Photocopies of some of the more controversial pages, which apparently criticize the way King Fahd has managed the Saudi Arabian economy, have, I am told, been posted in plain brown envelopes to the home addresses of hundreds of prominent Saudis. The copies are believed to be the work of anti-royalist factions, but most of those sent copies are publicly denying receipt of them. Arabic interest in the book, officially published this week, is still high — one Oxford Street bookshop yesterday sold all 11 remaining copies on its shelves to a representative of the Qatar Embassy. "The first printing, which was into five figures, has sold out," says American-born Robinson happily. "We are doing our second printing now." But for the former Saudi oil minister, Sheik Yamani — otherwise known as "Zaki" — it must cap what has been a disastrous week. He flew out of Britain last night after being refused an extension of his injunction in both the High Court and the Court of Appeal. He has until tomorrow to launch a final appeal and whether he does or not he is, his aides tell me, now planning a libel action against Robinson. This one should run and run.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Scrimgeour Kickers

Fund managers from within the UK investment office at Norwich Union will, I am told, be nursing bruised shins on Thursday morning. For, under the captaincy of Neil Mears, they will have played a football match against Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers the previous night at QPR's Loftus Road ground. With Norwich Union the victor of two previous battles this season against County NatWest and Morgan Grenfell, the Scrimgeour team, led by salesman John Tacchi, is determined to win. "We've got to break their winning run," says one Scrimgeour player. To strengthen the Scrimgeour attack, its team, I can reveal, will also include sales trader Bob "The Cat" Panter and market-maker Bill "Hard Man" Sharp — whose nicknames should be warning enough for Norwich Union.

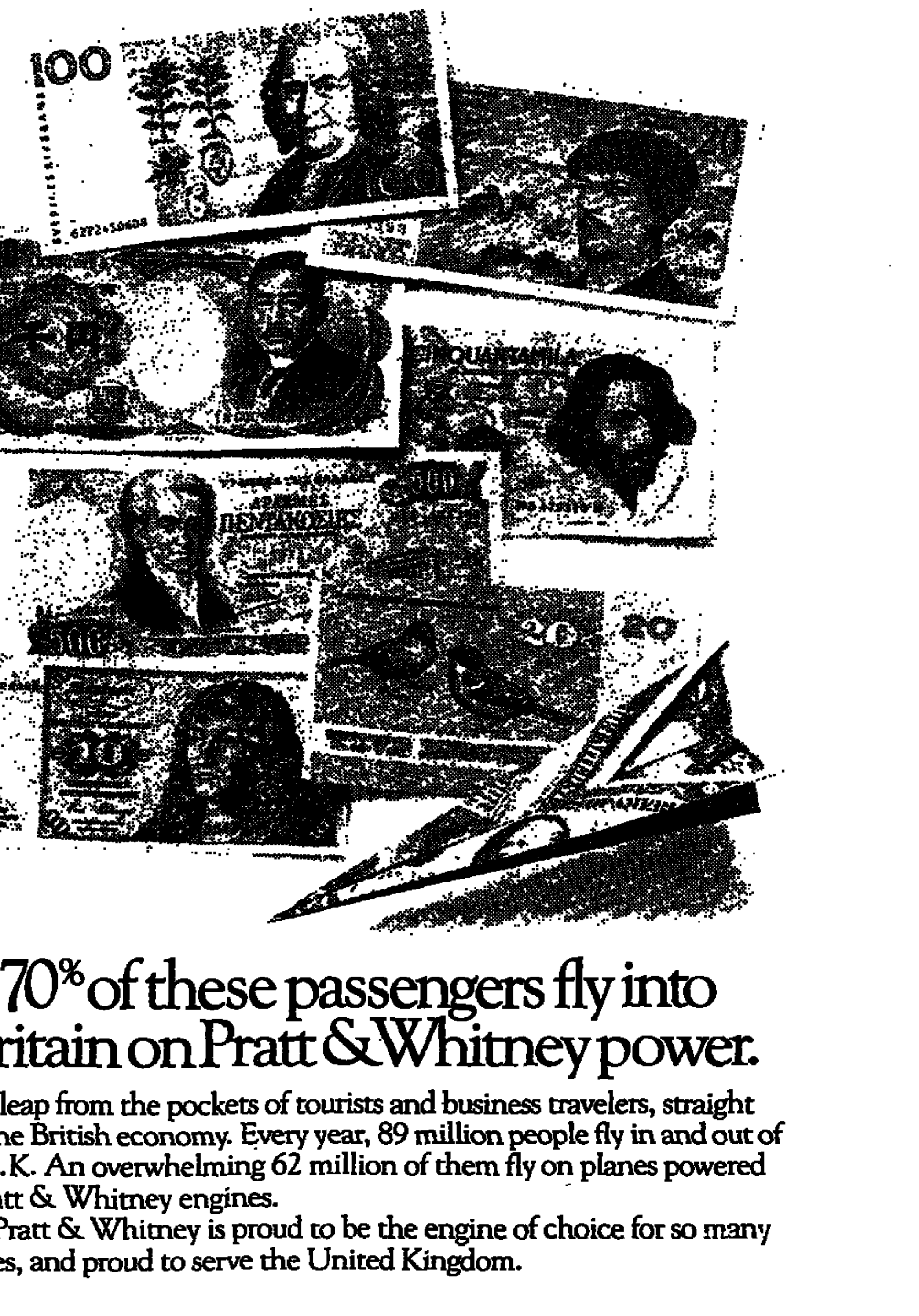
Cash stamps

If you do not want to take any money out of the stock market until the FT-SE 100 index has climbed back up to its rightful place above 2,300, but are in need of a small cash injection, how about selling your stamp collection? Instead of having to wait months for an auction date, owners of valuable stamp collections are now being offered a new loan facility by Stanley Gibbons, the world's oldest and most renowned stamp dealer. Stanley Gibbons Auctions has linked up with City Merchants Bank — founded in 1973 with assets of about £450 million and part of MIM — which is offering advances of £20,000 or more, at competitive rates, to philatelists who agree to an auction. In short, it means the vendor will receive an advance of up to 50 per cent of the expected auction price. The collection will, however, be held as security by Gibbons on behalf of the bank. Just in case you change your mind.

PEARSON'S PROFITS UP TO £152M
Smith

"In the pink, one could say..."

Carol Leonard


70% of these passengers fly into Britain on Pratt & Whitney power.

They leap from the pockets of tourists and business travelers, straight into the British economy. Every year, 89 million people fly in and out of the U.K. An overwhelming 62 million of them fly on planes powered by Pratt & Whitney engines.

Pratt & Whitney is proud to be the engine of choice for so many airlines, and proud to serve the United Kingdom.

UNITED TECHNOLOGIES
PRATT & WHITNEY

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Scrip plan after profit doubled at Canning

W Canning, whose interests range from chemicals and metals to electronics and medical services, doubled pretax profits last year to £6.08 million on turnover of £95.3 million. The company has plans to introduce a scrip dividend scheme to allow shareholders the choice of receiving dividends in shares rather than cash.

Much of the impetus behind the improved figures came from the US medical division. But with 60 per cent of the profits of the West Midlands company coming directly or indirectly from outside Britain, sterling's strength is threatening profit margins. A final 4p dividend makes a 5.3p total for the year to December 31, against 4p in 1986.

Lilleshall in 87% jump

Lilleshall, the steel stockholder being revamped by Mr John Leek, the former Hill Samuel director, hoisted profits by 87 per cent to £642,000 in 1987, excluding property sale surpluses. These contributed just £37,000 this time, against £330,000 a year ago, so pretax profits after exceptionals rose from £672,000 to £679,000. The final dividend rises to 2.25p a share, making 3p (2.25p) for the year.

Earnings rise at W Jacks

William Jacks, the Berkshire motor dealer, saw pretax profits accelerate from £557,000 to £858,000 in the year to end-January, raising earnings per share from 4.24p to 5.54p. The board is paying an 0.9p final dividend, making 1.7p (1.35p) for the year. The sale of the Zambian offshoot has been completed, giving rise to a profit of £54,000, which has been treated as an extraordinary item.

Setback for S Daniels

An unprecedented margin squeeze after the abandonment of the International Coffee Organization's price arrangements saw profits of S Daniels all but halved in the year ended December. There were also problems with other products and dollar movements had an adverse effect. Pretax profits fell from £1.01 million to £572,000 on turnover of £39.6 million (£38.9 million).

The group, which came to the stock market 16 months ago after a placing at 130p, aims to prove that 1987 was a temporary setback and says it will resume growth this year. The balance sheet is strong, and related acquisitions are planned. A final dividend of 2p makes 3.25p for its first full year as a quoted company. The shares were 2p easier at 86p.

Barrett leaps to £1.38m

Henry Barrett Group, the steel buildings-to-materials handling group, doubled profits in the six months to end-February, from £675,000 to £1.38 million. Turnover was up 60 per cent at £20.8 million. The interim dividend is 1.1p, out of 4.81p-a-share earnings. Barrett has made four buys since its stock market launch last May.

Merlin up to £1.5m

Merlin International Properties made *£1.5 million* pretax profits in the six months to the end of December against £244,848 in the previous first half. Turnover rose to £1.3 million from £203,898 and total income to £3.3 million from £496,000. Negotiations are under way for property disposals which will have a significant impact on the full-year profits.

TEMPUS

Pearson earnings deserve attention

While the Kuwait Investment Office was building its stake in British Petroleum, BP lost little time in expressing its view that anything above 20 per cent would cause discomfort. The KIO now owns more than 22 per cent of BP. Pearson's Lord Blakenham, equally, has made known his view that stakes as large as 15 per cent are inherently destabilizing, but this has not deterred Mr Rupert Murdoch's company, The News Corporation, which has amassed just over 20 per cent of Pearson.

Pearson has some protection from outright takeover in the shape of its interests in Lazard Brothers and the *Financial Times*. The Bank of England would have a say in any change in ownership of the merchant bank.

Further, because of the special rules concerning influence over national newspapers, if any shareholder were to buy 25 per cent of Pearson, an automatic inquiry by the Office of Fair Trading would be triggered.

Nevertheless, this does not mean that the group is bidproof.

As it is not immediately obvious who could come up with the likely £2 billion-plus price tag, investors should not lose sight of the group's earnings prospects for the next year or so. Black clouds are still darkening financial markets, giving grounds for expecting some slowing in the 20 per cent annual growth in earnings of the last five years.

On the plus side, there will be big contributions from the £163 million purchase of Addison-Wesley publishing, the US educational publisher. Then there will be the benefits of the 400 redundancies on the printing side, which could yield about £17 million in a full year, perhaps £10 million this year.

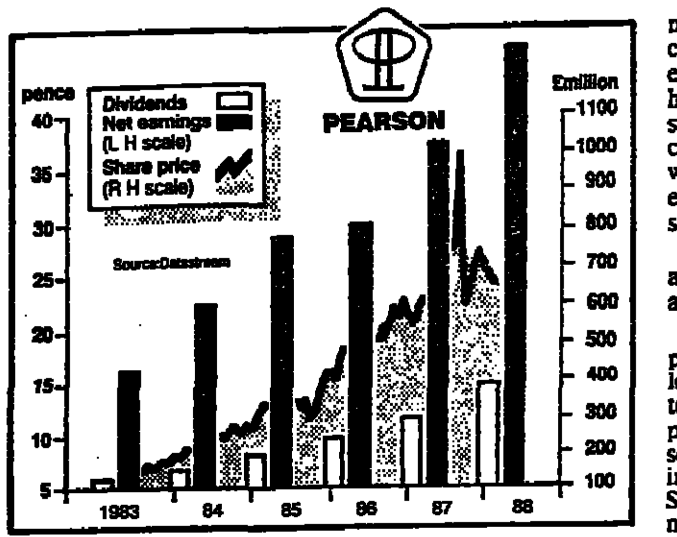
On the minus side, however, there is the weakness of the US dollar, and the possibility that financial advertising revenue could start to slip.

Interest costs, a big plus factor in last year's results after the sale of Bracken House, will reverse again this year. Year-end debt could rise to £200 million, giving a £15 million interest charge.

Profits in 1988 therefore could be held back to £162 million, just 7 per cent up on last year. The prospective multiple of 13.6 looks a little high, unless a bid materializes

Steetley

How appropriate that Steetley, arguably the most improved building materials company this decade, should have secured its position as France's leading aggregates producer by buying a handful of quarries from the makers of Perrier water, a product which has itself taken off during the 1980s.



Steetley's 1987 results reflect the overall buoyancy of the construction industry, particularly in Britain, now accounting for two-thirds of trading profits.

Volumes, and to a lesser extent prices, were firm but increasing operational efficiencies, additional capacity and economies of scale also had an impact.

The sale of the Canadian distribution business released money to reinvest in France and relieved the group of a business that did not fit the overall strategy. The same is so for the chemicals trading business also now sold.

Acquisitions made during 1987 added £0.5 million to profits, but this year they should more than make up the £4 million lost from discontinued activities.

Gearing at 17 per cent and a reasonable rating give the group the scope to make acquisitions for paper or for cash.

Whilst acknowledging that last October's stock market crash should not be disregarded, Steetley has not noticed any softening of demand. The current year has started well with trading levels well ahead of last year. The relatively clement weather will have had an effect but underlying demand also remains strong.

Steetley 's earnings have grown by 27 per cent compound over the last five years. Until recently the group was still cluttered up with businesses, legacies of Steetley's chemicals, distribution and engineering activities. Now however, the company can stand tall as a well-balanced construction materials group with more than an embryonic exposure ot the international scene.

Steetley has a clear focus and as a result a more obvious attractions as an investment.

The rating on a 1988 pretax profit of about £70 million leaves the shares on a discount to the market of more than 10 per cent, much in line with the sector. This is fair given the improving quality of earnings. Steetley remains one of the more interesting second-line building material stocks.

Slough Estates

If, as some property analysts insist, it is industrial property rather than retail or office property which is going to be the runner this year, then Slough Estates Britain's largest industrial property developer is worth a second look.

Market reaction to 1987 results was an 11p slide to 264p, partly because the growth in net asset value was not as high as had been expected, and partly because of the profits makeup.

The pretax profits at £61.8 million against £49.6 million owed more to sharply higher trading profits (up from £1.8 million to £12 million) than real growth on the property investment front. However, a net worth appreciation of 25.9 per cent to 287p a share is not to be scoffed at.

Market circumstances dictated that 1987 was the year in which Slough should be more active on the property trading front. But seen against the balance sheet valuation of £104.9 million for its trading properties (against £85.7 million last year) the proportion of trading profits is not so disproportionate.

Budget changes on capital gains tax means a £100 million potential fillip to Slough Estates and because industrial demand remains buoyant, another year of progress is in store.

There is also little reason why the rate of dividend growth – 12.3 per cent in 1987 to 7.3p a share – should not be maintained. Meanwhile, estimates of where net asset value goes this year range between 340p and 350p a share.

The current discount is therefore a shade short of 25 per cent.

The 52 per cent stake in Bredero Properties brought in £3.7 million at the pretax level and should again serve Slough Estates well, and generally rental levels are running well ahead of inflation.

Pretax profits should reach the £69 million level in 1988. Hold.

Jardine Strategic lists profits of HK$524m

By Stephen Leather, Hong Kong

Jardine Strategic Holdings, the cornerstone of the Keswick family's Hong Kong empire, yesterday declared after-tax profits of HK$524 million (£36.23 million) for year-end December 1987.

Jardine Strategic was set up at the end of 1986 as an investment vehicle.

Its portfolio consists of 25.2 per cent of the Crown Colony's biggest property firm, Hong Kong Land, 31.1 per cent of trading firm Jardine Matheson, 40 per cent of retailing group Dairy Farm and 35.2 per cent of Mandarin Oriental, the international hotel group.

The Bermuda-domiciled company is to pay a final dividend of nine Hong Kong cents for each ordinary share, and 35 cents for each preferred ordinary share, which makes the total for the year 15 cents and 50 cents respectively.

InterCity aims for £17m profit within two years as government subsidy ends

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

British Rail's InterCity passenger express sector will cease to receive any government subsidy from this Friday, for the first time since it was established 22 years ago.

Dr John Prideaux, director of InterCity for the past two years, faces the task of turning a current loss of about £100,000 a year into a profit of £17 million within two years.

He said it would be "quite an achievement" to meet the target of profitability.

He aims to gain profitability by reducing costs and generating extra revenue by improving the service. But some critics say that service standards are being sacrificed to meet the financial objectives, while others contend that fare increases pitched at above the rate of inflation are in danger of pricing InterCity out of the reach of many people.

The facts do not appear to support the idea that InterCity is pricing itself out of the market. Revenue is rising more rapidly than fares, and traffic is estimated to have increased from 7.8 billion passenger miles in 1986-87 to 8.3 billion in the current financial year.

In support of public criticisms of poor service quality, it is cited that in 1986-87 only 77 per cent of InterCity trains arrived at their destination within five minutes of their scheduled time. However, an easing of the punctuality target to make the number of arrivals within 10 minutes of the scheduled time the test of punctuality, will give a much more respectable appearance for the future.

The critics also complain of overcrowding with large numbers of people having to stand for long distances, particularly on Fridays. On the credit side InterCity can claim to be reliable as it runs more than 99 per cent of its advertised services.

InterCity is facing problems from inadequate investment in the past, and from demand fluctuating much more rapidly than capacity can be adjusted to meet it.

InterCity has an investment programme of about £600 million over the next five years which Dr Prideaux estimates is about as much as he can constructively spend in that period. Of that total, £190 million will go on new locomotives and carriages, £120 million on improved passenger facilities at stations, and £100 million on improved signalling.

This investment will yield substantial benefits for passengers. The electrification of the East Coast main line from London to Edinburgh is due for completion in 1991, which will produce significantly faster journey times. New electric locomotives will be introduced on the electrified West Coast route to Scotland.

The standards at many InterCity stations have improved out of all recognition. Journey times are being reduced with almost every revision of the timetables and more Pullman and sleeper services are being introduced.

Dr Prideaux says there is no single route to profitability. It will be achieved by many measures to cut costs, as for example, a £19 million saving through new methods of track maintenance, and by stimulating passenger demand through improved service.

In the short-term capacity problems will be eased by such measures as retaining in service this year 160 carriages which were to have been phased out.

On routes to the west, from Paddington, London, which has been subject of bitter complaints about overcrowding, an extra 1,000 seats are to be provided at evening rush hours from Monday to Thursday from May, and a further 1,000 are planned to be made available in May next year.

Swire Pacific Limited

1987 Final Results

The profit for 1987 was HK$2,396.1 million, an increase of 34.3% over 1986. There were no extraordinary items in 1987 (1986 HK$1,382.2 million profit) The audited consolidated results for the year ended 31st December 1987 were

	1987 HK$M	1986 HK$M
Turnover	**20,166.4**	16,603.6
Operating profit	**4,565.4**	2,929.2
Net finance charges	**458.4**	168.2
Net operating profit	**4,107.0**	2,761.0
Share of profits less losses of associated companies	**178.8**	115.1
Profit before taxation	**4,285.8**	2,876.1
Taxation	**715.3**	474.2
Profit after taxation	**3,570.5**	2,401.9
Minority interests	**1,174.4**	617.2
Profit for the year before extraordinary item	**2,396.1**	1,784.7
Extraordinary item	**—**	1,382.2
Profit attributable to shareholders	**2,396.1**	3,166.9
Earnings per share: 'A' shares	**153.3¢**	115.8¢
'B' shares	**30.7¢**	23.2¢
Dividends per share: 'A' shares — interim	**19.0¢**	15.0¢
— final, recommended	**43.0¢**	36.7¢
	62.0¢	51.7¢
'B' shares — interim	**3.8¢**	3.0¢
— final, recommended	**8.6¢**	7.3¢
	12.4¢	10.3¢
Net assets per share: 'A' shares	**HK$9.51**	HK$5.78
'B' shares	**HK$1.90**	HK$1.16

The profit for 1987 increased by 34.3%. Earnings per share, which have been calculated by reference to the profit before profit before extraordinary item and the weighted average number of shares in issue during each year, have been adjusted to reflect the capitalisation issue made in June 1987. Dividends for 1986 and net assets per share have been similarly adjusted.

Cathay Pacific Airways Limited reported attributable profits 71.4% higher than those of 1986 Hong Kong Aircraft Engineering Company's attributable profit increased by 20.6%. Swire Properties' results were again appreciably higher than those of the previous year Shipping, offshore services, and dockyard activities showed welcome signs of recovery Profits within the industries division were at a lower level than in the previous year The trading division had a very good year.

Final dividends. The directors of Swire Pacific Limited will recommend to shareholders at the annual general meeting on 26th May 1988 the payment of final dividends of 43.0¢ (1986: 36.7¢) per 'A' share and 8.6¢ (1986: 7.3¢) per 'B' share payable on 1st June 1988 to shareholders registered on 29th April 1988; the share registers will be closed from 20th April to 29th April 1988, both dates inclusive.

Once again, the final dividends will be satisfied by the issue of scrip to each class of shareholder, with the option being given to shareholders to elect to receive cash in lieu of scrip in respect of part or all of such dividends. Full details of the scrip dividend procedures will be set out in a circular letter which, together with the forms of election for the payment of cash dividends, will be sent to shareholders on 4th May 1988.

Investment properties and net assets per share. In accordance with the policy of the Group, the annual valuation at open market value of investment properties was carried out at 31st December 1987 by professionally qualified executives of Swire Properties. As a consequence of the 1987 valuation there has been an increase of HK$4,023.1 million in the valuation reserves of the Group, as compared with an increase of HK$634.0 million at the end of 1986. Taking into account both the retained earnings in 1987 and the increase in the valuation of investment properties, the net asset values of the shares of Swire Pacific at 31st December 1987 were HK$9.51 per 'A' share and HK$1.90 per 'B' share, which compare respectively with HK$5.78 and HK$1.16 at 31st December 1986.

Financing. Net borrowings at 31st December 1987 amounted to HK$6,631.6 million compared with HK$7,108.3 million a year earlier. This decrease was mainly attributable to a reduction of net borrowings within the property division which, to some extent, was offset by an increase in the net borrowings of Cathay Pacific Airways. Such increased borrowings arose mainly as a result of additional unrealised exchange differences, amounting to HK$2,344.1 million, caused by the weakening during 1987 of the Hong Kong dollar against the currencies in which most of the borrowings of Cathay Pacific Airways are denominated; however, this was largely offset by a high level of cash received from airline operations together with receipts on the issue of new shares during the year.

Cathay Pacific Airways raises long-term finance in currencies in which it has substantial positive cash flows. This is done to avoid any need to purchase foreign exchange in order to settle the resulting repayment obligations. It also ensures that exchange fluctuations affecting the value of such obligations in those currencies are effectively hedged by corresponding, but offsetting, fluctuations affecting earnings. Forecast surplus foreign currency earnings exceed the relevant interest and loan repayment commitments in any year and hence a hedged position is maintained.

Prospects. The current year has started well for Cathay Pacific Airways and, given reasonably stable economic conditions, the airline continues to regard the future with confidence. Swire Properties expects further good results in 1988 both from properties under development and from its investment property portfolio. The industries division should record considerably improved results in 1988, whilst the trading and insurance divisions are also expected to register increases in profits. The shipping, offshore services, and dockyard division expects some improvement in its markets in 1988 leading to better results than have been achieved in recent years. Thus, prospects for the Swire Pacific Group as a whole for 1988 are generally encouraging.

The Annual Report for 1987 will be sent to shareholders on 4th May 1988.

H.M.P. Miles
Chairman

Hong Kong, 24th March 1988

Swire Pacific Limited
The Swire Group
Swire House, Hong Kong.

"Slough Estates has had another excellent year and prospects for 1988 are good"

REPORTS SIR NIGEL MOBBS, THE CHAIRMAN

- Earnings and assets both show a significant improvement.
- Gross value of Group's properties now exceeds £1 billion.
- Demand for industrial and commercial property has been strong throughout the year.
- Construction completed during the year was just under 2 million square feet, with 1.34 million square feet overseas and 660,000 square feet in the UK.
- In the UK a portfolio of trading properties was sold for £30 million and investment properties were sold for £48 million. Overseas property sales totalled £47 million.
- The Group has a substantial worldwide development programme totalling £550 million including Bredero Properties of which £430 million is in the UK and £120 million is overseas.
- The Group possesses the strength and resources to carry out this programme successfully.
- Prospects for 1988 are good.

	1987	1986	Increase
Profit before tax	£61.8m	£49.6m	+24.6%
Profit attributable to shareholders	£42.8m	£36.7m	+16.6%
Earnings per share	15.6p	13.8p	+13.0%
Dividend per share	7.3p	6.5p	+12.3%
Net assets per share	287p	228p	+25.9%

To obtain a copy of the 1987 Preliminary Announcement and the 1987 Annual Report, to be published in April, please write to the Secretary, Slough Estates plc, 234 Bath Road, Slough SL1 4EE.

SLOUGH ESTATES

ONE OF BRITAIN'S LEADING INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY COMPANIES

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LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
Allid Lyons	330	40	48	55	3	9	12
(*338)	360	20	30	38	9	21	25
	390	7	15	22	27	38	42
Bass	750	97	115	132	3	8	15
(*844)	800	53	77	103	9	27	32
	850	23	50	72	25	47	52
Brit Air	140	25	27	30	1	7	10
(*164)	160	10	13	18	6	14	18
	180	1½	6	12	19	26	31
Brit Cons	280	15	25	32	10	20	22
(*285)	300	6	15	23	22	32	33
	330	2	8	15	50	52	57
Brit Gas	130	5½	12	15	3½	6½	11
(*131)	140	2	7½	11	10½	13	16½
	160	½	3½	6	30	30	33
BP	240	25	34	40	2½	6	13
(*261)	260	9	23	29	8½	15	20
	280	2½	14	20	22	27	32
Britoil	420	85	-	-	1	2	2
(*503)	460	45	62	70	2	3	6
	500	10	30	40	2½	10	20
Cons Gold	850	70	125	150	25	57	80
(*868)	900	45	100	130	50	87	105
	950	30	80	105	86	115	135
Courtauld	300	30	40	48	6	14	18
(*223)	330	8	22	30	15	30	35
	360	2½	12	20	40	53	55
	390	1	7	-	70	77	-
Com Union	300	25	40	45	4	12	15
(*320)	330	8	25	30	18	27	30
	360	3	14	22	45	47	52
C & W	330	6	20	30	17	33	38
(*318)	360	2½	13	23	43	50	60
	390	1	5	15	73	80	85
GEC	140	11	16	20	3	6	10
(*147)	160	1½	7½	10	15	17	22
	180	1	2½	4½	35	36	37
GKN	280	24	35	41	6	13	18
(*298)	300	10	24	30	14	21	28
	330	2	12	19	35	38	45
	360	1	6	-	65	68	-
Grand Met	420	60	75	85	1½	10	14
(*476)	460	25	48	60	11	23	32
	500	7	26	38	36	42	48
	550	2½	10	22	77	78	82
ICI	950	60	110	-	11	38	-
(*985)	1000	30	77	95	35	54	74
	1050	13	55	-	70	85	-
	1100	5	37	55	110	120	135
Jaguar	300	4	15	23	33	40	45
(*270)	330	1	7	13	62	62	67
	360	1	4	9	92	92	90
Land Sec	460	63	70	83	3	13	23
(*517)	500	28	43	60	11	30	40
	550	7	22	30	38	55	65
M & S	160	11	15	21	4½	10	12
(*168)	180	2	7	12	16	21	24
	200	½	3½	7	36	39	39
R-Royce	120	3	9	13	10	14	16
(*117)	130	1½	5	9	19	20	22
	140	1	3	7	29	30	30
STC	220	20	32	38	2	9	13
(*236)	240	7	20	28	10	19	23
	260	2	10	20	28	30	38
Sainsbury	220	13	20	24	4	8	11
(*228)	240	3	10	14	13	20	22
	260	1	4	8	33	34	36
Shell	1000	47	90	107	15	33	52
(*1027)	1050	20	62	-	40	57	-
	1100	6	40	60	80	87	102
Storehse	220	12	20	27	9	22	25
(*218)	240	3½	10	20	25	32	37
	260	1	5	13	43	47	52
	280	1	3	-	63	67	-
Trafalgar	300	25	33	45	5	13	20
(*319)	330	9	17	27	20	28	37
	360	2½	9	17	45	52	60
TSB	100	10	13	16	1½	4	6
(*107)	110	3	9	10	6	8	10
	120	1½	5	6	15	16	17
Woolworth	260	25	35	40	2½	15	17
(*276)	280	10	21	30	10	23	28
	300	2	15	20	22	37	40

	Series	Jun	Sep	Dec	Jun	Sep	Dec
Amstrad	140	26	33	-	6	9	-
(*157)	160	14	19	25	13	15	20
	180	5	13	18	28	30	31
Barclays	460	37	47	55	18	27	30
(*473)	500	15	27	40	40	50	52
	550	4	10	-	82	87	-
Beecham	420	47	56	-	10	19	-
(*452)	460	24	35	42	27	37	40
	500	10	20	27	53	65	70
	550	3	-	-	102	-	-
Boots	220	12	17	24	17	23	25
(*217)	240	5	12	16	32	34	38
	260	2	7	-	48	51	-
BTR	240	17	26	30	11	16	19
(*243)	260	9	17	21	23	27	30
	280	4	10	14	40	41	43
Blue Circ	420	40	55	68	18	28	35
(*444)	460	20	35	43	40	48	55
	500	9	20	28	70	75	80
Dixons	180	7	12	17	19	23	27
(*166)	200	3	7	11	38	38	42
	220	1	4	-	58	57	-

	Series	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Calls Dec	Puts Jun	Puts Sep	Puts Dec
Glaxo	950	77	112	-	34	53	-
(*996)	1000	50	85	103	60	80	90
	1050	30	65	-	90	110	-
	1100	18	47	60	130	145	150
Hanson	120	12	16	-	3½	6½	-
(*127)	130	6	11	14	8	11½	13
	140	3	7	10	14½	17½	19
	160	½	3	5	34	34	35
Hawker	460	33	50	57	27	37	40
(*474)	500	16	33	37	50	57	60
	550	6	17	23	90	95	100
Lonrho	220	28	33	-	6	10	-
(*240)	240	17	22	29	13	19	22
	260	8	15	21	28	30	33
	280	4½	10	-	45	48	-
Midland	360	47	55	-	9	15	-
(*390)	390	28	37	45	22	30	37
	420	12	22	30	42	50	57
Sears	120	11½	16	-	6	8	-
(*128)	130	6½	10½	13	11	14	16
	140	3½	6½	10	19	21	22
Tesco	140	17	23	-	6	7	-
(*150)	160	6	10	16	16	18	21
	180	3	6	10	34	32	36
Thorn EMI	500	105	115	-	5	12	-
(*588)	550	64	82	95	15	30	35
	600	34	50	57	37	54	60
	650	17	27	38	72	82	90
THF	220	24	30	37	8	12	13
(*232)	240	11	18	25	18	20	24
	260	5	9	12	33	36	40
Unilever	460	32	47	57	21	30	37
(*458)	500	12	30	40	47	53	58
	550	5	15	-	90	92	-
Wellcome	420	47	67	-	20	30	-
(*441)	460	26	46	58	38	50	57
	500	13	32	43	67	76	80

	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
BAA	100	13	20	27	6	15	16
(*108)	110	8	15	22	11	18	22
	120	4	12	17	17	26	26
Brit Aero	300	52	54	-	7	14	-
(*350)	330	27	35	43	16	27	37
	360	12	23	30	33	40	50
	390	5	14	22	60	62	72
BAT Ind	390	40	48	-	8	16	-
(*425)	420	18	32	43	23	30	37
	460	7	17	27	50	55	60
	500	3	10	17	90	93	97
Brit Tele	220	29	36	42	2	7	10
(*246)	240	14	20	28	7	13	16
	260	6	11	17	18	26	27
Cadbury	240	18	26	34	9	18	20
(*247)	260	8	16	22	21	26	30
	280	3	9	13	37	39	42
Guinness	260	45	-	55	3	-	12
(*303)	280	27	-	45	9	-	20
	300	14	-	35	18	-	30
Ladbroke	300	95	98	-	1	3	-
(*360)	330	67	70	77	3	7	10
	360	42	47	57	8	15	23
LASMO	280	66	77	88	3	10	14
(*343)	300	49	59	73	8	18	27
	330	28	44	55	20	28	40
Pilkington	200	18	27	35	10	15	22
(*208)	220	10	17	22	22	27	33
	240	4	10	15	37	43	47
	260	2	4	-	55	58	-
Plessey	140	20	25	32	3½	9½	13
(*155)	160	10	15	23	12	20	24
	180	4	8	14	28	33	35
P & O	500	87	92	100	4	10	17
(*584)	550	42	60	72	20	27	37
	600	15	37	47	45	52	60
Prudential	800	30	65	80	25	45	55
(*826)	850	23	45	60	65	75	85
	900	7	28	43	105	110	120
Racal	200	25	32	40	5	8	13
(*217)	220	12	21	27	13	19	22
	240	5	13	19	26	31	36
RTZ	300	60	75	-	7	14	-
(*350)	330	37	50	60	15	23	30
	360	25	37	45	30	37	45
	390	16	-	-	45	-	-
Vaal Reefs	90	11	16	20	5½	10	14
(*$94)	100	6½	11	14	11	17	20
	110	4	8		22	25	
Tr 12%	110	3 1/16	3⅜	3 5/16	11/32	23/32	1½
1995	112	1⅜	1⅝	2⅜	31/32	1⅜	2⅜
(*113)	114	23/32	1⅛	1⅞	2 1/16	2⅝	3 7/16
	116	7/32	9/16	27/32	3⅜	4⅜	4⅜
Tr 11¾%	114	5 9/16	-	-	9/16	-	-
03/07	116	3⅝	-	-	11/16	-	-
(*119)	118	2⅜	-	-	1 9/16	-	-
	120	1½	-	-	2⅝	-	-
	122	23/32	-	-	3 9/16	-	-

FT-SE INDEX (*1741)

Series	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
1600	150	153	—	—	3	20	—	—
1650	95	112	123	140	5	38	45	57
1700	48	75	92	110	11	48	60	77
1750	15	45	65	83	33	75	88	100
1800	2	25	45	62	77	105	115	125
1850	1	14	28	43	127	145	155	160
1900	½	6	17	30	177	190	195	200

March 28, 1988 Total: 33827 Calls 18125 Puts 15702 FT-SE: Calls 2436 Puts 3330

*Underlying security price.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
March 28	April 15	June 30	July 11

Call options were taken out on: 28/3/88 Ultamar, BP p/p, Leigh Int., Elswick, Asda Prop., Standard Chartered, Eagle Trust, LIT, Chloride, Waterford, Sound Diffusion, B Priest, Edmond Hldgs., Thomson T-Line, Jaguar, J Crowther, Brasway, Polly Peck, J Webb, North Kalgurli Mines.

Put: Brent Walker, Sheraton.

ALPHA STOCKS

	Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000
ADT	1184	Coats	1393	Laporte	331	Royal Ins	3086
Abbey	359	CU	2193	L&G	967	Saatchi	647
Alld-Lyons	3538	Cons Gold	532	Lloyds	1248	Sainsbury	1814
Amstrad	1280	Cookson	792	Lonrho	707	Scot & N	888
ASDA	1140	Courtaulds	1483	Lucas	723	Sears	3112
AB Foods	238	Dalgety	348	Magnet	946	Sedgwick	1,603
Argyll	2166	Dee	1187	M&S	3223	Shell	1297
BAA	2826	Dixons	2790	Maxwell Cm	480	Smith & N	1703
BET	873	ECC	376	MEPC	609	Smith WH	349
BTR	3707	Enterprise	1312	Metal Box	394	STC	1459
BAT	2859	Ferranti	2068	Midland	1835	Stan Chart	737
Barclays	190	Fisons	1223	NatWest	1682	Storehse	1704
Bass	3014	Gen Acc	558	Next	928	Sun Allnce	351
Beecham	867	GEC	8938	Nth Food	598	T & N	952
Beazer	684	Glaxo	2839	P&O	1717	Tarmac	860
BICC	1798	Globe	247	Pearl	178	Tate & Lyle	157
Blue Arrow	1954	Granada	555	Pearson	554	TSB	4217
Blue Circle	515	Grand Met	1250	Pilkington	2610	Tesco	2470
BOC	1203	GUS 'A'	185	Plessey	2309	Thorn EMI	858
Boots	585	GRE	251	Prudential	858	Trafalgar	785
BPB	1205	GKN	998	Racal	3273	THF	1104
Br Aero	1525	Guinness	1192	Rk Hovis	197	Ultramar	1724
Br Airways	4,243	Hamm 'A'	1265	Rank	323	Unigate	209
Br Comm	1897	Hanson	4226	R&C	489	Unilever	2033
Br Gas	10582	Hawker	805	Redland	953	United Bis	1711
Br Petrol	2920	Hillsdown	1198	Reed	2023	Utd News	724
Br Telecm	3560	IMI	1560	Reuters	1234	Wellcome	831
Britoil	8	ICI	3153	RMC Gp	524	Whitbrd	548
Bunzl	1564	Inchcape	102	RTZ	1003	Williams	1862
Burmah	787	Jaguar	2202	R-Royce	2888	Willis Fab	489
Burton	1672	Lasmo	1256	Rothmn 'B'	1587	Wimpey G	3857
C&W	2345	Ladbroke	2395	Rowntree	1188	Woolworth	1937
Cadbury	2774	Land Sec	528	Royal Bank	1162	Equities page 31	

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WORLD MARKETS ROUNDUP: TOKYO

Nikkei marks start of new fiscal year with 300-point gain

(Reuter) — Share prices closed sharply higher in active trading yesterday, due to aggressive buying that marked the beginning of the stock market fiscal year, brokers said.

"Brokerages and institutional investors couldn't do much on Friday and Saturday because they were closing their books," said a fund manager at the Bank of Tokyo. "Energy was built up and it has come through today."

The Nikkei index surged 301.99 points, or 1.2 per cent, to 25,622.71. It sank 305.99 points in half-day trading on Saturday. Rises led falls five to two in turnover of 1.1 billion shares against 400 million.

Securities house, communications, bank, railway, bus, pulp/paper, airline, pharmaceutical, rubber, shipbuilding, gas, real estate and retail issues led the advance. Only oil, service, precision instrument, and trucking issues fell.

The gain ended a three-day losing streak, which had brought the Nikkei index down nearly 575 points.

Now that leading Japanese brokerages are back in the market at full force, large capital issues that had suffered staged a comeback, brokers said. The top 10 traded issues, consisting mainly of steels and heavy machineries, constituted 62 per cent of the total 600 million share midday turnover.

Other institutional investors joined in the rally, inspired by the prospects for the new year. "A number of domestic funds with high cash positions in the wake of the crash are now unlocked and are trading for March 1989," said Mr Simon Smithson of Kleinwort Benson International.

Attention focused on whether Wall Street could recoup some of its losses, and whether the dollar could regain some strength.

FRANKFURT

Stocks drift on low volumes

(Reuter) — West German shares ended 2 to 3 per cent lower after a similar fall on Friday, as the weaker dollar and lower Wall Street stocks convinced foreign investors and professionals to thin out their holdings, dealers said.

But they added that volume was low as is usual in the week before Easter.

The Commerzbank 60-share index, calculated at mid-session, fell 38.1 points or 2.76 per cent to 1,341.8 from 1,379.9 on Friday.

Sentiment seemed to have turned negative, dealers said. Dealers said most shares had held up or even made slight gains after the sharply lower opening. Volkswagen held steady on the last day of subscription for the 4.8 million ordinary shares the Federal Government has offered for sale. It closed at DM239 after opening at DM238.20, compared with a close of DM240 on Friday.

Other car shares also suffered, with Daimler down DM13.50 to DM637, BMW DM9 lower at DM490 and Porsche down DM11 to DM507.

SYDNEY

Cautious outlook depresses shares

(Reuter) — The share market closed sharply weaker with most buyers cautious before the opening of offshore markets.

By the close of floor trading, the All-Ordinaries index had tumbled 44.5 points to 1,380.2.

"A moderate amount of buying was evident towards the close, but the market has fallen pretty heavily with a very low turnover," one broker said.

The All-Industrials index slumped 73.9 to 2,207.8, and the All-Resources 22.6 to 753.6. The gold index lost 65.9 to 1,734.2.

Brokers said an important feature was the lack of institutional or overseas selling. On the industrials board, transport, banks and media stocks suffered the largest falls. TNT lost 20 cents to Aus$4.20.

SINGAPORE

Nervous investors in sell-off

(Reuter) — The stock market closed on a weak note with prices sharply lower across the board on selling pressure by nervous investors, despite the strong rise in Tokyo.

The Straits Times industrial index fell 20.38 points to 925.22 from Friday's close of 945.60.

Dealers said prices fell sharply at the outset after the 45-point plunge on Wall Street on Friday, and then fluctuated narrowly. But prices succumbed to selling pressure again towards the close.

Some blue chips and quality stocks suffered sharp falls but trading was fairly quiet. Most institutions remained on the sidelines, awaiting a further lead from Wall Street. Trading was centred mainly on cheaper-priced issues. NOL fell four cents to S$1.40 on a turnover of 1.5 million shares and DBS Land eased 1 cent to S$1.00.

SIA lost 40 cents to S$10.90, Metro 35 to S$5.90, Malayan Breweries 30 to S$10.00, Fraser and Neave 25 to S$8.20, DBS and National Iron 20 each to S$9.90 and S$6.65, Inchcape 18 to S$4.26, Transmarco 16 to S$3.54 and Singapore Land 15 to S$5.75.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

AMI Healthcare (215p)	256	-3
Archer (AJ) (130p)	162	-3
Assoc Nursing	146	
Aukett Ass (95p)	101	-1
Berry Star	163	
Brit Pet P/P	71	-2
Copymore (130p)	126	-4
GWR Gp	345	
Hatfield Est (100p)	126	-2
Hughes (HT)	75	
ISA Intl (80p)	107	-4
Inshops (52p)	69	-2
Lon Forfaiting (160p)	154	-1
MTL Inst New	76	
Nestor-BNA (75p)	92	-1
Norfolk House (100p)	106	
Pennine Optical	50	
Psion	118	-4
Resort Hotels (14p)	17	
River&Merc Am Inc	102	+1
Selective Ass	73	-2
Shaftsbury (180p)	150	-3
Shanks McEwan (650p)	820	
Shorco	129	+3
TGI (130p)	123	-3
TIP Europe	143	-5
Titon Hldgs (80p)	79	-3
Transrap Hldgs (50p)	61	
UK Paper (135p)	140	-3
Vosper Thorny (160p)	173	-3

RIGHTS ISSUES

Banro N/P	13	-3
Charterhall N/P	9½	
Hartons N/P	27	
Jackson Ex N/P	¾	-¼
Leisure N/P	5½	-½
Mining & Ald N/P	4	-1
Oakwood N/P	345	-25
Shandwick N/P	45	-10
Sumrie N/P	8	-2

(Issue price in brackets).

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	8.50%
Adam & Company	8.50%
BCCI	8.50%
Consolidated Crds	8.50%
Co-operative Bank	8.50%
C. Hoare & Co	8.50%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	8.50%
Lloyds Bank	8.50%
Nat Westminster	8.50%
Royal Bank of Scotland	8.50%
TSB	8.50%
Citibank NA	8.50%

Dow fall continues on dollar decline

New York (Reuter) — Wall Street stocks fell sharply in active early trading yesterday with few issues showing gains.

The Dow Jones industrial average, which closed down 44.92 points at 1,978.95, on Friday, its lowest close since February 11, was down 16.25 points at 1962.70 while declining issues overwhelmed rising shares by six to one.

A continuing fall in the dollar against the yen and last week's heavy losses touched off the heavy selling, brokers said. They also say some futures-related selling was possible.

American Express was down ½ at 24, ATT down a ¼ to 26⅞ and McDonald's at 41 was down two.

● Lorimar Telepictures Corporation said it is continuing to hold exploratory merger talks with Warner Communications but has not yet decided whether such a move is in the best interests of the company.

Lorimar made the statement in a letter to Mr Marvin Davis, an investor. Mr Davis is believed to hold less than a 5 per cent stake in the company and has sought talks to acquire the company for $17 a share, subject to a number of conditions.

"We have previously acknowledged your 'interest' in Lorimar Telepictures and have indicated to you we will bear it in mind," Mr Merv Adelson, Lorimar chairman and chief executive, wrote.

WALL STREET

	Mar 25	Mar 24		Mar 25	Mar 24		Mar 25	Mar 24
AMR Cp	40¾	42⅜	Fedders	9⅜	9⅜	Pennzoil	73⅝	74⅝
ASA	45⅝	45¾	Firestone	78⅝	78⅝	Pepsico	34⅝	34⅝
Aetna Life	44	44¾	Fst Chicago	24⅝	25½	Pfizer	55	54⅝
Allied Signal	31½	32	Fst Int Bncp	45½	45⅝	Phelps Dod	42⅞	44
Allis Chlm	1⅜	1⅜	Fst Penn C	10⅝	10⅝	Philip Mor	88⅜	91⅝
Alcoa	42¼	42⅞	FT Wachva	37	36⅝	Philip Ptrl	16⅝	17
Amax Inc	19⅝	19¾	Ford Motor	42	43⅜	Polaroid	31¼	31½
AMR Hess	28¾	30	GAF Cp	53⅝	53¾	Primerica	31⅛	31¼
Am Brands	44⅝	44⅝	GTE Cp	37⅞	37⅞	Proct Gble	77⅛	79⅝
Am Cynmd	48¼	49⅝	Gen Cp	19⅜	19⅝	Pub S E G	23¼	23⅜
Am Ele Pwr	26⅝	27⅛	Gn Dynam	54⅝	56⅝	R Nabisco	48⅜	49⅝
Amexs	24⅛	25⅛	Gen Electric	40⅜	41⅜	Raytheon	67⅝	68⅜
Am Family	15	15⅜	Gen Inst	30⅜	31⅝	Rynlds Metl	41⅞	43½
Am Home	78⅜	80⅝	Gen Mills	47	48⅝	Rockwell Int	19⅜	20⅛
Am Int Grp	55	55⅜	Gen Motors	69¼	71	Royal Dutch	117	119⅜
Am Stand	76	75⅜	Gen Pub Ut	32¾	31⅞	SFE Sopac	16⅝	17⅝
Am Telph	27	27⅛	Genesco	4¼	4⅜	Sara Lee	39⅞	40⅝
Amoco Cp	73⅝	74⅛	Georgia Pac	35	36	Schlumb	34½	34⅝
Anheuser B	30⅜	30⅝	Gillette	45⅝	43⅝	Scott Paper	37⅛	38⅜
Armco Steel	10⅝	11⅛	Goodrich	48⅜	49⅝	Seagram	52⅞	52⅞
Asarco Inc	23⅜	25	Goodyear	61⅞	62⅜	Sears Roeb	36	37⅝
Ashland Oil	65⅝	65⅜	Gould Inc	12⅝	12½	Shell Trans	76⅜	77⅞
Atl Richfld	80⅝	80⅝	Grace Co	25¼	25⅜	Singer	49¼	49¼
Avon Prod	26⅝	24	Grt Atl Pac	34⅜	36⅜	Smith Beck	54⅜	55¼
Bk Boston	23⅜	23⅝	Greyhnd	30	30⅝	Sony Cp	40⅜	40⅝
Bank NY	31⅝	31⅜	Gruman	22⅝	22⅜	Sth Cal Edi	31⅜	31
Bankamer	10⅝	10⅝	Gulf & West	80	80	SW Bell	35⅝	36⅜
Bkrs Tst NY	32	32⅜	Heinz	43⅜	44⅛	Squibb	65	66½
Baxter	22⅝	23⅜	Hercules	49⅝	50⅜	Sterl Drug	n.a	n.a
Beth Steel	20¾	21¼	Hewlett Pk	59⅝	60⅝	Stevens JP	63⅝	63⅝
Boeing	47	46⅝	Honeywell	64⅜	65½	Sun Comp	56¼	57⅝
Boise Casc	43	44⅞	IC Ind	32⅝	33⅜	TRW Inc	50⅝	50⅝
Borden	52⅞	54¼	ITT Cp	44⅜	45⅝	Teledyne	327¼	332¼
Bristl Meyr	42⅝	42⅝	INCO	25	25¼	Tenneco	43⅝	42⅝
BP	58	59⅝	Ing Rand Wl	37⅞	38⅜	Texaco	45¼	45⅝
Brunswick	21½	21⅞	Inland Steel	31⅞	31⅜	Tex Eastn	32¼	32½
Burl Nth	70⅞	71⅝	IBM	107	109⅜	Texas Inst	47⅞	49½
CBS	161⅝	160⅝	Int Paper	41½	43	Tex Util	26	26⅜
CMS Engy	17	17⅞	Irving Bk	65⅝	66¼	Textron	26	26⅜
CPC Int	49⅝	50	Jhns&Jhns	80½	82⅝	Travelers	35⅝	35⅝
CSX Cp	30⅝	31¼	K Mart	33⅜	35¼	USG	36⅝	37¼
Camp Soup	27¼	28⅝	Kaisertech	12⅜	12⅝	USX Cp	29⅞	30⅝
Can Pacific	18¾	19½	Kerr McGee	36¼	36⅝	Unilever Plc	34¼	35
Caterpillar	62⅞	63⅝	Kimbrly Clrk	53	54⅝	Un Carbide	23½	23⅝
Centrl SW	30⅝	30½	Kraft	52⅞	53⅝	Un Pac Cp	64⅜	65⅝
Champion	33⅝	34⅝	Kroger	33⅜	35½	Unisys Cp	31⅜	32
Chase Man	25	25⅝	LTV Cp	3⅜	3½	Utd Brands	48	47⅝
Chem NY	22½	22¾	Litton	79⅝	80⅜	Us West	53⅝	53⅝
Chevron	43¾	45¼	Lockheed	43⅜	45	Utd Tech	40	40⅝
Chrysler	23¾	24⅛	Lucky Str	47⅞	48¼	Unocal	35⅜	35⅞
Citicorp	19	19⅝	Man H'nver	26	28⅝	Warn Lamb	73⅜	75⅜
Clark Eq	25¼	27	Manville	2⅝	2⅞	Wells Far	51½	53⅜
Coca Cola	38⅝	39	Mapco	52⅜	52¼	Westg El	48⅜	49⅝
Colgate	44	43½	Marriott	31¼	31⅝	Weyerhsr	39⅞	40¼
Columb Gas	29½	29½	Mt Marieta	46⅜	47⅛	Whirlpool	25⅝	27
Cmb'tn Eng	33⅝	34	Masco	27	28	Woolworth	45⅝	46⅝
Cmwlth Edi	26⅝	27⅜	Mcdonalds	43	43⅜	Xerox Cp	54⅝	55½
Cons Edis	43⅛	43⅝	McDonnell	62⅜	63⅝	Zenith	19½	17⅝
Consol Ng	35⅝	36⅛	Mead Cp	35⅝	38¼			
Cont Data	27⅝	27⅝	Merck	161¼	164¼	**CANADIAN PRICES**		
Corning Gl	52⅝	53⅝	Minsta Mng	57⅝	60⅜			
Crane	30	30⅜	Mobil	43⅝	45	Agnco Eag	19⅝	19⅜
Curtiss W	51½	51½	Monsanto	81⅝	82⅝	Alcan Alum	34½	35¼
Data Genl	22⅞	23½	Montedison	11¼	11½	Algoma Stl	18.12	18.50
Deere Co	45¼	45	Morgan Jp	32⅜	33⅜	Can Pacific	23¾	24¼
Delta Airl	48⅞	50	Motorola	43¼	44⅝	Cominco	18	17⅝
Detroit Edi	13⅝	13½	NCR	56½	58	Con Bathrst	18¾	18⅜
Digital Eq	104	107⅝	NL Indstrs	7	7	Hawk S Can	22½	23
Disney	60⅝	61	Nat Md Ent	22¼	22⅝	Hud Bay M	20¼	20⅜
Dow Chem	80⅝	83¼	Nat Seml	11¼	11½	Imasco	28⅞	29
Dressr Ind	31⅝	32	Norfolk Sth	27⅞	28⅛	Imperial Oil	57¼	58
Dupont	80½	82½	NW Bancrp	44⅝	44⅞	Int Pipe	45⅞	45½
Duke Pwr	44¼	44½	Occid Petl	26¼	27⅝	Royl Trstco	15½	16⅜
East Kodak	40⅝	40⅞	Ogden Cp	29⅞	30	Seagram	65	65¾
Eaton Cp	79¼	79	Olin Cp	55¼	55½	Shelco 'A'	40¼	40⅜
Emerson El	31⅜	31¼	PPG Ind	38½	39	Thmsn N 'A'	27⅝	28
Emery Air	6⅝	6⅝	Pac Gas El	15⅝	15⅝	Vanty Cp	3.65	3.55
Exxon	41⅝	42¾	Pan Am	3	3	WCT	17⅝	17
Farah Inc	9⅝	10	Penney JC	47⅞	47⅞	Weston	33¼	33⅜

Hang Seng down on US worries

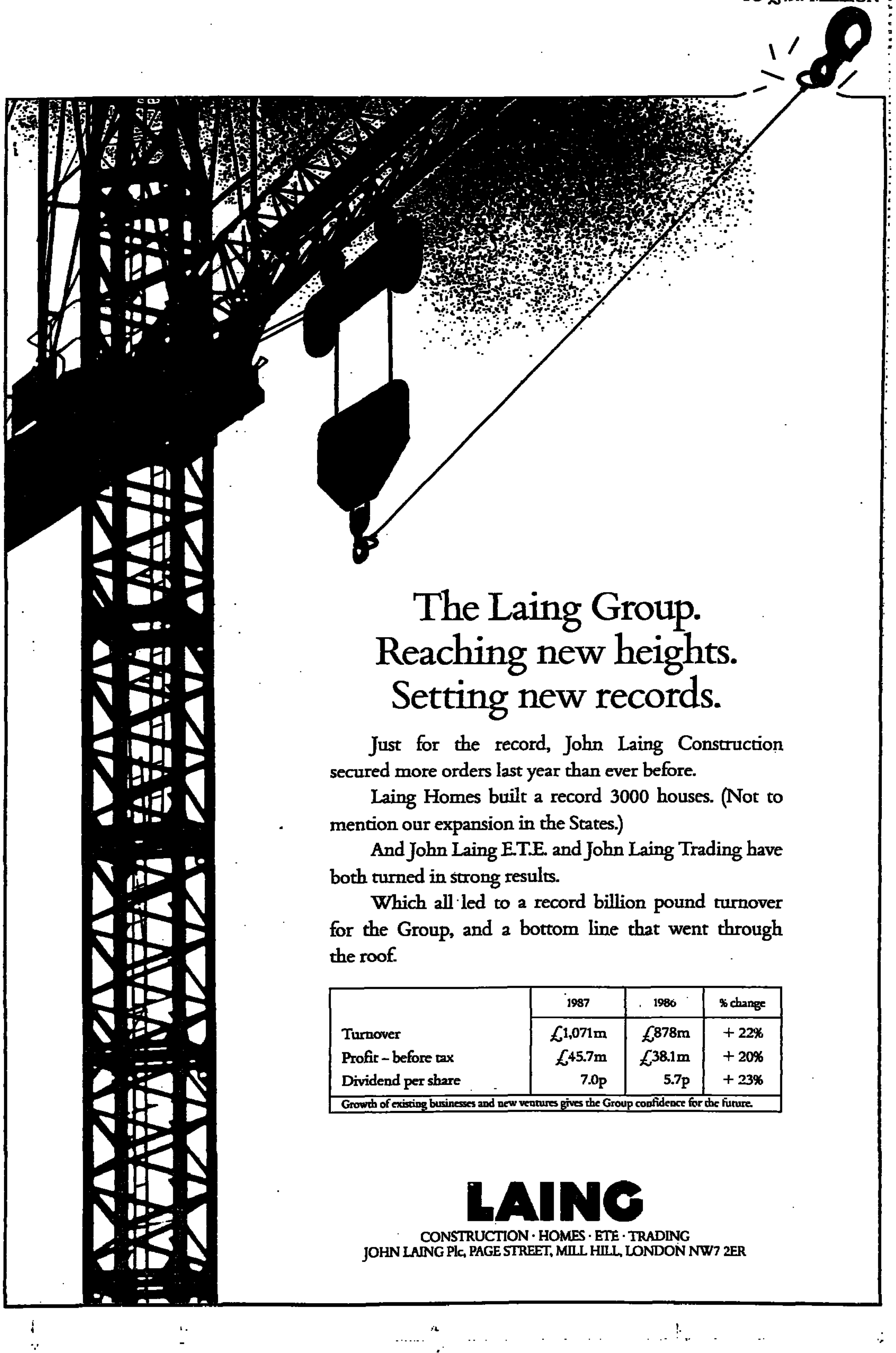
(Reuter) — Share prices closed lower on concern about falling prices on Wall Street, brokers said.

The Hang Seng index fell 35.15 points to 2,466.78. The broader-based Hong Kong index fell 23.54 to 1,616.32. Turnover was HK$727.68 million (£50.3 million)

Brokers said local sentiment had been fairly strong until the US dollar's present weakness

Jardine Strategic fell 30 cents to HK$8.05 after announcing a sharp rise in 1987 net profit to HK$524 million. King Fook Holdings, which began trading yesterday, closed at HK$1.68.

HongKong Bank fell 5 cents to HK$7.20, Cheung Kong 10 to HK$7.25, Hutchison 15 to HK$8.15, Hongkong Land 5 to HK$7.40, Wharf 25 to HK$6.50 and Swire Pacific "A" 60 cents to HK$16.70.



PROFITS UP BY 20% TO £45.7 MILLION

The Laing Group.
Reaching new heights.
Setting new records.

Just for the record, John Laing Construction secured more orders last year than ever before.

Laing Homes built a record 3000 houses. (Not to mention our expansion in the States.)

And John Laing E.T.E. and John Laing Trading have both turned in strong results.

Which all led to a record billion pound turnover for the Group, and a bottom line that went through the roof.

	1987	1986	% change
Turnover	£1,071m	£878m	+ 22%
Profit – before tax	£45.7m	£38.1m	+ 20%
Dividend per share	7.0p	5.7p	+ 23%

Growth of existing businesses and new ventures gives the Group confidence for the future.

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Bid	Offer	Weekly ch'ng	Yld
ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 80, Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL Tel: 0345 717373 (Linkline)				
Gilt & Fixed	112.3	120.6	-2.6	9.12
Hi Inc Equity	116.7	124.8	+2.2	4.77
Worldwide Bd	190.5	203.0●	-0.4	4.78
American Gth	148.4	158.7	+3.0	1.47
Asian Pacific	58.6	62.6	+1.8	1.93
Assets & Earns	133.9	143.2	+2.6	1.84
Capital Res	77.8	78.1●	+0.2	1.29
Comm Energy	81.9	87.5	-3.4	0.00
Euro Capital	67.0	71.8	-0.6	1.05
General	160.8	171.9	+4.2	2.62
Japan	95.0	101.6	+0.8	..
UK Gth Inc	124.1	132.7	+1.2	1.83
Do Acc	181.0	193.5	+1.8	1.26
US Emerg Co	38.4	41.0●	-1.3	0.00
Income Gth	244.7	261.7	+6.6	3.63
Master Acc	68.9	73.6	-1.2	2.53
American Inc	42.4	45.3●	+0.5	6.05
Ethical Tst	41.2	44.0	+1.5	2.84
ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 10, Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ Tel: 0224 633070 20, Catawall St, London EC1Y 4TY Tel: 01-374 6891				
UK Growth	31.0	33.0	+0.9	3.39
N Am Inc	24.3	25.9	+0.7	4.77
World Gth	38.6	41.0	+0.7	1.22
Extra Inc	37.7	40.1●	+0.6	6.20
Formerly Baltic Trust Managers				
American	39.8	42.4	+0.8	2.16
Amer Extra Inc	36.5	38.9●	+0.4	6.67
Australian	16.8	17.9	+0.8	1.96
Euro Tst	41.2	43.8●	+1.0	1.38
Gt/Fxd Interest	22.9	24.4●	+0.2	9.84
Global Income	34.4	36.7	+0.6	5.28
Hi Income	53.4	56.9	+0.6	5.36
Income Growth	65.1	69.3	+1.0	4.31
International	83.0	88.4	+3.3	0.81
Japan Gen	158.6	168.6	+0.2	0.01
Special Sits	62.1	66.1	+1.6	1.34
AETNA UNIT TRUSTS LTD 401, St. John Street London EC1V 4QE Tel: 01-837 6494				
Euro Gth Acc	103.0	108.7●	+2.5	1.10
Exempt	380.1	402.1●	+8.1	4.73
Far Eastern	197.2	212.8●	+5.6	0.10
Fin & Prop	79.1	83.8●	+1.2	2.56
Hi Yield	72.3	76.6	+1.2	4.91
Income & Gth	298.2	316.9	+4.0	4.47
Int Earnings	179.7	190.4	+3.3	2.87
Int Growth Inc	85.5	91.1	-4.4	0.25
Japan Gth Acc	149.1	160.2	+3.0	0.20
N Amer Gth Inc	112.1	121.0	+1.0	2.51
Preference Inc	128.5	134.0	+0.5	9.40
Smt Co Div Inc	89.4	94.7	+1.2	4.61
Smt Co Gth	271.2	287.3●	+2.1	1.66
Spec Sits Inc	122.5	129.8	-1.8	1.81
UK Growth	374.1	396.3●	+6.4	3.24
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon SN1 1EL 0793 28291 Dealing:0793 610366				
High Income	293.4	311.0●	+7.3	4.84
Equity Inc	169.5	179.7	+4.1	4.30
High Yield	174.2	184.7	+4.2	4.88
Balanced	413.1	437.9	+12.0	3.27
Amer Inc	27.2	29.0●	+0.4	4.72
World Ass Val	25.2	26.8	+0.3	1.53
Japan	137.4	146.3	+0.9	0.01
Sec of Amer	183.1	195.0	+1.8	1.15
Asset Value	291.3	308.8	+8.1	3.47
O'seas Earn	201.0	213.1	+5.9	3.37
Recovery	96.5	102.3	+1.7	2.97
UK Spec Sits	248.5	263.4●	+5.4	2.72
Smlr Co	166.9	175.9	+1.8	1.95
Capital	248.4	263.3	+6.5	3.32
Amer Spec sit	58.2	62.0●	+1.2	1.89
International	88.9	94.7●	+1.4	1.25
Growth & Inc	152.5	161.6	+9.0	3.44
Euro Gth	17.7	18.9	..	1.32
Pacific	209.5	223.1	+5.2	0.37
2nd Sml Co	197.2	209.0●	-1.0	1.76
BARCLAYS UNICORN Unicorn House, 252, Romford Rd E7 01-534 5544				

	Bid	Offer	Weekly ch'ng	Yld
CAPEL (JAMES) MANAGEMENT 2nd Floor Winchester Hse, 77 London Wall, London EC2N 1DE 01-588 6890				
Capital	397.7	423.1	+11.9	2.58
Income	349.9	372.3	+7.8	5.25
Nth Amer	236.0	251.1	+5.0	1.90
CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND 2, Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ 01-588 1815				
Investment	440.7		+2.5	4.79
Fixed Int	148.4		+1.3	9.76
Deposit	100.0		..	8.71
CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND 2, Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ 01-588 1815				
Income	414.35		+0.48	5.04
Acc	£12.75		+0.08	..
Deposit	100.0		..	8.55
CHASE MANHATTAN FUND MNGRS 72/73,Basinghall St, London EC2V 5DP 01-606 6622				
S/C Spec Sit	60.4	63.9	-4.4	0.44
CLERICAL MEDICAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH 0800 373393				
Amer Gth	19.1	20.3	+0.4	0.25
Atlas Gth	21.9	23.2	+0.3	1.08
Dragon Gth	19.8	21.0	+0.8	1.97
Equity Hi Inc	55.8	59.1	+1.4	4.74
European Gth	24.0	25.5	+0.1	1.87
Gen Equity	48.2	51.1	+1.7	2.83
G/F Intrst Gth	33.2	35.0	..	7.21
Gth & Fixed Inc	25.5	27.0	+0.2	8.84
Int Income Tst	22.9	24.3●	+0.3	5.61
Japan Gth	46.3	49.0	+0.4	0.00
Pedigree Gth	29.2	30.9	+1.0	2.14
Special Sits	34.8	36.8	+0.6	2.07
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MANAGERS St Helen's, 1, Undershaft, London EC3P 3DQ 01-283 7500 Dealing 01-686 9818				
UK & Gen Inc	53.2	56.6	+0.8	3.50
Do Acc	54.6	58.1	+0.9	3.50
Income Inc	55.4	58.9●	+0.5	4.18
Do Acc	57.4	61.1●	+1.2	4.18
Worldwide Inc	42.2	45.1	+0.6	1.26
Do Acc	42.5	45.5	+0.6	1.26
Gamma Inc	33.1	35.2●	+0.7	1.07
Do Acc	33.3	35.4●	+0.8	1.07
Amer Gth	53.3	56.7	+1.5	0.58
Euro Gth	51.4	54.7	+1.0	0.33
Far East	60.4	64.3	+1.5	0.00
Gilt & Fxd Int	..	..	..	..
World Bond	..	..	..	..
CROWN UNIT TRUST SERVICES LTD Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW 04862 5033				
Amer Tst	106.2	113.3	+2.3	0.86
Canadian Gth	19.7	21.0	+0.7	..
European Tst	87.0	92.8	+0.3	..
Growth Tst	258.8	276.0●	+8.3	3.10
High Income	314.8	335.6	+7.2	4.86
Int Tech Tst	103.2	110.1	+2.0	
Investment	26.6	28.3	+0.8	
Japanese Tst	221.3	236.1●	+1.9	
Man Int	25.8	27.5	-0.7	
CRUSADER UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Reigate, Surrey RH2 8BL 0737-242424				
European Gth	49.4	53.2	-0.2	3.00
Euro Spec Sits	36.0	38.5	-0.3	1.30
International	46.4	49.9	+0.8	3.50
N Amer Gth	40.3	43.4	+1.4	1.00
Pacific Gth	52.3	56.3	+2.0	4.80
UK Gth Acc	62.5	67.3●	+1.8	0.50
Do Dist	60.4	65.0●	+1.2	0.50
UK Income	57.1	61.4●	+0.2	4.60
EFM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				

	Bid	Offer	Weekly ch'ng	Yld
Overseas Inc	58.0	61.8	+0.3	4.78
Fxd Interest	58.9	62.7	+0.3	9.11
Natural Res Fd	52.3	55.7	+1.7	2.17
European Inc	58.5	62.1●	+1.3	2.49
Financials Fd	45.3	48.2●	+1.2	2.82
Int Tech Fd	101.4	107.9	+2.5	0.89
FS INVESTMENT MANAGERS 190, West George St, Glasgow G2 2PA Tel: 041-332 3132				
Balan Gth Acc	66.8	70.8	+2.9	..
Do Inc	65.0	69.1	+2.8	0.40
Hi Yield Acc	29.0	30.8	+0.7	..
Do Inc	27.7	29.5	+0.6	5.40
Inc Gth Acc	55.6	59.2	+2.2	..
Do Inc	49.5	52.7	+1.9	5.50
Serv Co Acc	68.9	73.3	+2.7	..
Do Inc	67.5	71.9	+2.6	0.80
Amer Gth Acc	22.2	23.5●	+1.0	..
Do Inc	22.0	23.4●	+1.0	1.00
Euro Gth Acc	15.7	16.8●	+0.5	1.00
Do Inc	15.6	16.7●	+0.4	1.00
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD River Walk, Tonbridge, TN9 1DY Tel: Callfree 0800 414161				
American	97.2	104.0	+2.4	1.21
Amer Eqty Inc	26.7	28.6●	+0.3	4.09
Amer Spec Sit	45.2	48.4	+1.6	0.01
Australia	20.1	21.4	+0.6	2.43
European	51.2	54.8	+1.4	..
European Inc	20.3	21.8●	+0.1	4.51
Global Conv	22.6	24.1	+0.2	5.39
Far East Inc	36.9	39.3	+0.2	3.65
Gt/Fxd Interest	30.1	30.4c	+0.2	9.73
Growth & Inc	113.7	121.7	+2.1	4.31
Japan Spec Sit	69.3	74.2●	+1.2	..
Japan	164.0	175.5	-0.1	..
Managed Intl	123.0	130.9●	+3.3	0.87
Inc Plus	103.8	111.1●	-0.7	4.70
Famous Name	39.0	41.8	+0.7	2.66
SE Asia	32.1	34.4	+1.1	0.72
Spec Sit	236.7	253.2	+2.0	0.86
Eastern Opps	21.3	22.7●	+0.2	..
Intl Bond	24.9	26.6	+0.3	6.60
Recovery	27.5	29.5	+0.9	2.63
Moneybuilder	24.0	25.6	+0.4	
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT 3, London Wall Bldgs, London Wall, London EC2M 5NQ Tel: 01-628 5181				
Amer/Gen Inc	166.8	178.2	+3.6	..
Do Acc	170.2	180.0	+3.6	..
Amer Turn Inc	180.1	190.5	+5.6	1.08
Do Acc	186.8	197.6	+35.9	1.08
Capital Inc	257.8	273.1	-1.4	2.31
Do Acc	329.8	349.0	+4.4	2.31
Conv/Gilt Inc	103.1	109.0	+1.3	5.38
Do Acc	145.2	153.6	+1.9	5.36
European Inc	53.8	56.8	+0.9	1.14
Do Acc	54.0	57.1	+0.8	1.14
Extra Inc Inc	231.1	244.5●	+5.8	3.91
Do Acc	260.2	275.3●	+6.4	3.91
Financial Acc	44.5	47.0	+0.6	0.90
Do Inc	44.3	46.8	+0.5	0.90
Income Tst	156.2	165.3	+3.7	4.26
Do Acc	172.5	182.5	+9.1	4.26
Int Growth Inc	145.3	153.7	+0.8	
Do Acc	161.4	170.7	+0.8	
Japan/Gen Inc	113.5	120.0●	+0.8	
Do Acc	114.6	121.2●	+0.8	
Monthly Inc Fd	116.9	123.6●	+1.1	4.50
PEP 87	59.2		+1.2	2.79
PEP 88	49.9	52.8	+0.7	2.39
Recovery	175.0	185.1●	+6.0	1.14
Do Acc	192.9	204.1●	+6.5	1.14
Smaller Inc	52.5	55.6●	+0.5	3.17
Do Acc	52.9	55.9●	+0.6	3.17
FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH Tel: Dealing:0722 411411 Admin:0722 411622				
Equity Dist	230.7	244.9	+6.7	2.77
Do Acc	387.0	421.4	+11.6	2.77
Euro Gth Dist	52.6	55.8	+1.1	0.89
Do Acc	52.6	55.8	+1.1	0.89
Fxd Interest Di	117.9	125.4	+0.4	8.96
Do Acc	149.2	158.7	+0.6	8.96
Intl Gth Dist	52.6	55.8	+0.4	1.34

...(33) 1st day of February, May, August, November. (34) Last working day of month. (35) 15th of month. (36) 14th of month. (37) 21st of month. (38) 3rd Wednesday of month. (39) 2nd Wednesday of month. (40) Valued monthly (41) Last Thursday of Stock Exchange account (42) Last day of month (43) 2nd and 4th Wednesday of month. (44) Quarterly (45) 6th of month. (46) 2nd Tuesday of month.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Sterling index compared with 1975 was up at 77.1 (day's range 76.8-77.1).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Market rates for March 28

	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
New Yrk	1.8520-1.8580	1.8570-1.8580	0.30-0.27pr	0.90-0.85pr
Montrl	2.2915-2.3033	2.2971-2.3002	0.05p-0.02ds	0.14-0.03pr
Amstrdm	3.4557-3.4680	3.4614-3.4652	1½-1⅜pr	4¼-3⅞pr
Brussels	64.41-64.71	64.53-64.70	14-11pr	44-38pr
Dublin	1.1509-1.1571	1.1525-1.1535	17-12pr	44-35pr
Copnhgn	11.7872-11.8389	11.8232-11.8389	⅜-1⅛ds	1⅝-2⅜ds
Frankft	3.0762-3.0865	3.0830-3.0865	1⅜-1¼pr	4⅛-4pr
Lisbon	251.91-254.17	253.11-254.70	56-107ds	227-326ds
Madrid	205.40-206.35	205.87-206.35	28-39ds	92-113ds
Milan	2277.19-2287.03	2283.95-2287.03	4-6ds	12-15ds
Oslo	11.5848-11.6488	11.6333-11.6488	4⅝-5ds	14⅝-15⅝ds
Paris	10.4435-10.4682	10.4559-10.4862	⅝-⅜pr	⅜-⅛pr
Stckhlm	10.8901-10.9506	10.9391-10.9506	½-1ds	1⅝-2⅜ds
Tokyo	229.30-230.51	230.73-231.04	⅞-⅝pr	2⅝-2⅜pr
Vienna	21.62-21.75	21.72-21.75	9-8pr	26⅝-24⅛pr
Zurich	2.5415-2.5495	2.5443-2.5475	1⅝-1⅜pr	4½-4¼pr

Premium = pr. Discount = ds.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral*	12.3389-12.4384
Australia dollar	2.5307-2.5339
Bahrain dinar	0.6970-0.7010
Brazil cruzado*	207.35-208.49
Cyprus pound	0.8020-0.8030
Finland marka	7.4025-7.4425
Greece drachma	246.25-248.25
Hong Kong dollar	14.454-14.484
India rupee	23.98-24.18
Kuwait dinar KD	0.5060-0.5100
Malaysia dollar	4.7414-4.7459
Mexico peso	4175-4275
New Zealand dollar	2.8601-2.8681
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.9325-6.9725
Singapore dollar	3.7124-3.7163
S Africa rand (fin)	4.9571-5.0552
S Africa rand (com)	3.9291-3.9389
U A E dirham	6.7875-6.8275

*Lloyds Bank. Rates supplied by Extel and Barclays Bank HOFEX

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.6060-1.6075	Denmark	6.3730-6.3780	Italy	1231.0-1233.0
Singapore	2.0040-2.0050	W Germany	1.6638-1.6645	Belgium (Com)	34.80-34.85
Malaysia	2.5595-2.9605	Switzerland	1.3747-1.3757	Hong Kong	7.8025-7.8035
Australia	1.3670-1.3680	Netherlands	1.8685-1.8695	Portugal	136.20-136.70
Canada	1.2385-1.2395	France	5.6380-5.6410	Spain	111.08-111.18
Sweden	5.8905-5.8955	Japan	124.20-124.30	Austria	11.69-11.70
Norway	6.2620-6.2670				

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank HOFEX and Extel.

MONEY MARKETS

Base Rates %: Clearing Banks 8½ Finance Hse 9½
Discount Market Loans %
Overnight High: 8⅝ Low 8 Week fixed: 8½
Treasury Bills (Discount %)
Buying: 2 mth – 8⅜ 3 mth – 8⅜
Selling: 2 mth – 8⅜ 3 mth – 8¼
Prime Bank Bills (Discount %)
1 mth: 8¹¹⁄₃₂-8⁹⁄₁₆ 2 mth: 8⅝-8⁹⁄₁₆ 3 mth: 8¹³⁄₃₂-8¹¹⁄₃₂
6 mth 8¹⁷⁄₃₂-8¹³⁄₃₂
Trade Bills (Discount %)
1 mth: 8³¹⁄₃₂ 2 mth: 9 3 mth: 9¹⁄₃₂
6 mth 9⁵⁄₃₂
Interbank (%). Overnight: open 8⅝ close 10
1 week: 8⅝-8½ 1 mth: 8⅝-8⁹⁄₁₆ 3 mth: 8¹⁷⁄₁₆-8⅝
6 mth: 8²¹⁄₃₂-8²⁶⁄₃₂ 9 mth: 8³⁄₁₆-8⅝ 12 mth: 9⅛-9¼
Local Authority Deposits (%)
2 day: 8⅝ 7 day: 8⅝ 1 mth: 8⅝
3 mth: 8⅝ 6 mth: 8⅝ 12 mth: 9
Local Authority Bonds (%)
1 mth: 8⅝-8½ 2 mth: 8¹³⁄₁₆-8⁹⁄₁₆ 3 mth: 8¹³⁄₁₆-8⁹⁄₁₆
6 mth: 8¹⁵⁄₁₆-8¹¹⁄₁₆ 9 mth: 9⅛-8⅞ 12 mth: 9³⁄₁₆-8¹⁵⁄₁₆
Sterling CDs (%)
1 mth: 8⅝-8½ 3 mth: 8¹¹⁄₁₆-8⁹⁄₁₆ 6 mth: 8¹³⁄₁₆-8¹¹⁄₁₆
12 mth: 9⅛-9

Dollar CDs (%)
1 mth: 6.70-6.65 3 mth: 6.75-6.70 6 mth: 6.90-6.85
12 mth: 6.35-6.30

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth
Dollar: Call: 6⅛-5⅞	6¹¹⁄₁₆-6⁹⁄₁₆	6⅞-6⅝	6⅞-6¾	7¹⁄₁₆-6¹⁵⁄₁₆
Deutschemark: Call: 3½-2⅞	3⁵⁄₁₆-3¹⁄₁₆	3⅜-3⅛	3⅜-3⅛	3⁹⁄₁₆-3⁷⁄₁₆
French Franc: Call: 7⅞-6⅞	7¹¹⁄₁₆-7⁹⁄₁₆	8¹⁄₁₆-7¹⁵⁄₁₆	8⅛-8⅜	8⅝-8⅜
Swiss Franc: Call: 1⅞-⅞	1⁷⁄₁₆-1⁵⁄₁₆	1⁹⁄₁₆-1⁷⁄₁₆	1¹³⁄₁₆-1¹¹⁄₁₆	2³⁄₁₆-2¹⁄₁₆
Yen: Call: 3⅜-2⅞	6⁵⁄₁₆-6⁷⁄₁₆	4¹¹⁄₁₆-4⁹⁄₁₆	4⅝-4¼	4⅝-4¼

ECGD

Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: February 29, 1988. Agreed rates March 26, 1988 to April 25, 1988. Scheme I: 10.45 per cent. Schemes II & III: 10.56 per cent. Reference rate January 30, 1988 to February 29, 1988. Scheme IV: 9.247 per cent.

GOLD

BULLION:
Open: $453.50-454.00 Close: $454.00-454.50
High: $454.25-454.75 Low: $453.00-453.50

COINS: Per coin (Ex VAT)
Britannia: $467.50-472.50 (£252.00-255.00)
Krugerrand: $452.75-455.75 (£244.00-246.00)
Mapleleaf (1oz): $467.50-472.50 (£252.00-255.00)
American Eagles: $467.50-472.50 (£252.00-255.00)
New Sovereigns: $107.00-108.00 (£57.50-58.25)
Old Sovereigns: $107.00-108.50 (£57.50-58.50)
Platinum: $508.85 (£274.55)
Palladium: $123.50 (£66.65)
Silver: $6.63-6.65 (£3.570-3.585)

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
Three Month Sterling			Previous open interest 30412		
Jun 88	91.03	91.07	91.01	91.06	4465
Sep 88	90.77	90.80	90.75	90.79	309
Dec 88	90.58	90.58	90.58	90.60	31
Mar 89	90.41	90.41	90.41	90.41	5
Jun 89	90.21	90.23	90.21	90.23	46
Sep 89	90.03	90.03	90.03	90.03	1
Three Month Eurodollar			Previous open interest 26591		
Jun 88	92.75	92.77	92.71	92.73	4855
Sep 88	92.47	92.46	92.44	92.44	739
Dec 88	92.20	92.20	92.17	92.17	142
Mar 89	91.98	91.96	91.92	91.93	22
Jun 89	NT	—	—	91.71	0
Sep 89	NT	—	—	91.51	0

	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
US Treasury Bond			Previous open interest 6125		
Jun 88	90-27	90-30	90-12	90-16	6598
Sep 88	NT	—	—	89-15	0
Long Gilt			Previous open interest 25159		
Mar 88	121-29	122-07	121-25	122-06	50
Jun 88	121-10	121-20	121-01	121-16	15576
Sep 88	NT	—	—	97-14	0
FT-SE 100			Previous open interest 10233		
Mar 88	174.60	175.20	172.80	173.40	2011
Jun 88	175.80	176.35	173.70	174.00	1268

COMMODITIES

ICIS-LOR Group
Crude came off its late Friday highs in almost non-existent trade Monday morning and then proceeded to sideline for the rest of the day. Product prices firmed as gasoil led the way in minimal activity.

CRUDE OILS/assessed ($/BBL FOB)		
Brent Phys	15.65	+25
15 day Apr	15.60	+25
15 day May	15.75	+20
WTI May	17.05	+20
WTI Jun	16.95	+20

PRODUCTS Buy/sell $/MT.
Spot CIF NW Euro - prompt delivery

Prem Gas .15		168-170	
Gasoil EEC	+1	141-142	
Non 2H Mar	+1	138-140	
Non 1H Apr		138-139	
3.5 Fuel Oil	+2	74-75	+2
Naphtha	+2	142-144	+3

GAS OIL G W Joynson	
Apr	138.50-38.25
May	138.25-38.00
Jun	138.25-36.00
Jul	136.50-35.75
Aug	138.50-38.00
Sep	139.50-36.00
Oct	140.50-38.00
Nov	142.00-36.00
Dec	142.00-36.00
Vol	3040

HVY FUEL OIL Reuter	
Apr	unq.
May	unq.
Vol	0

LONDON FOX

COCOA	G W Joynson
Mar 918-909	Dec 987-986
May 925-924	Mar 1012-1008
Jul 943-942	May 1028-1027
Sep 963-962	Vol 3743

COFFEE	G W Joynson
Mar 1115-110	Nov 1210-208
May 1137-135	Jan 1235-232
Jul 1165-163	Mar 1260-253
Sep 1190-188	Vol 1651

SUGAR	C Czarnikow
FOB	Vol: 1387
May 199.0-99.4	Dec 194.0-97.0
Aug 197.8-98.4	Mar 195.0-95.4
Oct 197.0-98.4	May 197.4-97.8

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES
WHEAT close (£/t) Vol 166
My 104.15 Jl 108.60 Sp 100.60
Nv 102.30 Ja 104.60 Mr 106.40
BARLEY close (£/t) Vol 21
My 104.15 Jl unq. Sp 97.85

BIFFEX
GNI Freight Futures Dry Cargo ($10/pt)

LONDON POTATO FUTURES (£/tonne)

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Official prices/volume

(£/tonne)	
Copper Gde A	1320.0
Copper Stand	1280.0
Lead	353.00
Zinc Hi Gde	600.00
Silver Large†	661.00
Silver Small†	661.00
Aluminium	1545.0
Aluminium Hi*	2856.0
Nickel*	23800

† (Cents per Troy oz). *

LONDON MEAT FUTURES (/kg)
Live Pig Contract

Mth	Open	Close
Apr	unq.	90.1
Jun	unq.	90.3
Aug	unq.	90.6

هكذا من الاصل

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Further losses

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began March 21. Dealings end April 8. §Contango day April 11. Settlement day April 18.
§Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES PAGE 29)

Portfolio
—PLUS NEW—
Accumulator

From your Portfolio gold card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily or accumulator dividend figures. If it matches or betters this figure you have won outright or a share of the daily or accumulator prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Laird	Industrials L-R	
2	System Designers	Electricals	
3	Suter	Industrials S-Z	
4	Land Sec (aa)	Property	
5	Wyndham Eng	Industrials S-Z	
6	Lon & Edin Tst	Property	
7	Boosey & Hawkes	Leisure	
8	Admiral Comp	Electricals	
9	Derwent Hldgs	Property	
10	Tunstall	Electricals	
11	Ptarmigan	Foods	
12	Beecham (aa)	Industrials A-D	
13	Speyhawk	Property	
14	Raine Ind	Building,Roads	
15	BPP	Paper,Print,Adv	
16	Matthews (Bernard)	Foods	
17	Young 'A'	Breweries	
18	Hardys & Hansons	Breweries	
19	Clark (Matthew)	Breweries	
20	BICC (aa)	Electricals	
21	Belton (P)	Property	
22	Ryl Bk Scot (aa)	Banks,Discount	
23	Fletcher King	Property	
24	Isotron	Industrials E-K	
25	Tranwood	Industrials S-Z	
26	DDT Group	Electricals	
27	Cookson (aa)	Industrials A-D	
28	Barrett (H)	Industrials A-D	
29	Macfarlane	Industrials L-R	
30	Meggitt	Industrials L-R	
31	Hong Kong Land	Property	
32	Norcros	Industrials L-R	
33	Bridon	Industrials A-D	
34	CALA	Property	
35	Highgate & Job	Industrials E-K	
36	Br Land	Property	
37	Unigroup	Industrials S-Z	
38	Laing Prop	Property	
39	Allied-Lyons (aa)	Breweries	
40	Sequa	Chemicals,Plas	
41	Regalian	Property	
42	Waverley Cam	Paper,Print,Adv	
43	Edbro	Industrials E-K	
44	Beckman (A)	Textiles	
© Times Newspapers Ltd.		Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Friday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

Portfolio
—PLUS NEW—
Accumulator
© Times Newspapers Limited

DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000
Claims required for 31 points

ACCUMULATOR £128,000
Claims better than 31 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

1987/88 High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
216	113	Rothschild (J) Hd	160	167	-1	8.2	5.0	8.7
449	273	Ryl Bk Scot (aa)	340	343	+2	17.4	5.1	6.6
17	705	Schroders	9	10		22.6	2.4	11.0
843	398	Stand Chart (aa)	422	427	-15	48.8	11.3	8.3
154	97	TSB (aa)	106	108	●-1	5.3	5.0	7.2
818	453	Union	535	550	s ..	29.5	5.4	12.3
576	263	Warburg SG	335	342	-3	14.4	4.2	..
198	102	Do 6% 'A'	119	122	● ..	8.2	6.8	..
37⅞	21	Wells Fargo	27⅞	-	●-1½			
550	290	Westpac	435	460	●-5	8.8	2.0	17.8

BREWERIES

1987/88 High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
471	290	Allied-Lyons (aa)	372	374	+4	10.2	4.3	11.0
10½	740½	Bass (aa)	840	848	-1	26.8	3.2	12.6
77	35	Belhaven	45	47		1.3	2.8	16.5
233	124	Boddington	138	143	-2	5.1	3.6	15.4
246	131	Buckleys	180	190	-3	4.4	2.4	57.1
239	139	Bulmer (H P)	172	180	..	8.2	4.7	12.5
195	120	Burtonwood Brew	145	153	-1	4.0	2.7	24.1
535	332	Clark (Matthew)	373	383	●+1	13.7	3.6	12.8
361	202	Devenish (JA)	330	337	-1	4.1	1.2	29.4
279½	150	Greenall Whitley	203	207	-3	8.2	4.0	11.7
494	258	Greene King	462	480	-3	9.3	2.0	23.4
390	225	Guinness (aa)	300	305	-1	12.6	4.2	9.8
795	473	Hardys & Hansons	687	707	+2	29.5	4.2	13.0
106	68	Highland Dist	95	100	-1	3.4	3.5	16.3
223	138	Invergordon Dist	202	210	●-2	7.9	3.8	12.5
248	145	Irish Dist	210	220	-5			
154	110	Marston Thompson	117	119	-1	3.6	3.1	14.9
603	345	Morland	498	505	-5	10.8	2.2	19.7
470	131	SA Breweries	335	380	-5			
294	178	Scot & New (aa)	258	262	..	11.3	4.3	14.5
569	465	Vaux Grp	527	535	+2	19.5	3.7	18.2
385	251	Whitbread 'A' (aa)	295	298	-1	12.6	4.2	12.5
400	248	Do 'B'	315	335	..	12.6	3.9	13.7
374	218	Whitbread Inv	300	310	-6	11.6	3.8	35.5
424	277½	Wolvrhmptn & D	383	390	-2	8.0	2.1	18.5
477	274	Young 'A'	377	397	+2	12.3	3.2	22.5

BUILDING, ROADS

1987/88 High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
360	129	Abbey	215	235	-5	..	..	
449	252	Amec	362	367	..	16.8	4.6	13.7
510	205	Anglia Sec	390	415	-5	2.7	0.7	23.7
438	28	Anglo Utd	44	46	● ..	1.4	3.1	83.3
155	68	Arncliffe	100	120	●-3	4.3	3.9	6.5
402	184	Atwoods	278	282	-5	8.9	3.2	15.9
442½	218	BPB Ind (aa)	273	278	-1	9.6	3.5	12.0
310	97	Baggeridge Brick	275	285	..	4.5	1.6	19.8
94	31	Bailey (Ben) Constr	70	73	-1	1.9	2.6	14.9
352	134	Barratt Devs	190	195	-1	12.6	6.5	12.7
327	160	Bellway	235	240	-2	11.0	4.6	11.5
188	76	Bellwinch	93	98	●-1	2.9	3.0	8.6
530	178	Berkeley Gp	327	335	-8	3.6	1.1	19.2
148	65	Bett Bros	88	93	..	4.8	5.2	21.4

BRITISH FUNDS

1987/88 High	Low	Stock		Price	Ch'ge	Int. only yld%	Gross Red. yld%
SHORTS (Under Five Years)							
102¾	100¾	Exch	10½% 1988	100¾	..	10.4	8.632
101¾	96	Treas C	9¼% 1988	100¾	..	8.73	8.540
99	92¾	Treas	3% 1978-88	99	● ..	3.0	8.918
101¼	94¾	Treas	9½% 1988	100¾	● ..	9.4	8.797
105¾	95¾	Treas	11½% 1989	102¾	..	11.2	8.800
104¼	97¾	Treas	10½% 1989	101¾	..	10.3	8.879
103¾	98¾	Exch	10% 1989	101¾	..	9.8	8.883
108	95¾	Exch	10½% 1989	103¾	+¼	9.8	7.731
105¼	95	Exch	11% 1989	102¾	● ..	10.6	8.862
99¾	88¾	Treas	5% 1986-89	96¾	●+¼	5.1	7.589
102¼	93¾	Treas C	9½% 1989	100¾	● ..	9.4	8.732
96¼	88¾	Treas	3% 1989	96¾	+¼	3.1	6.679
102¾	98¾	Treas	8% 1990	100¾	..	..	..
111	101¾	Treas	13% 1990	106¾	..	12.1	8.895
106¾	95	Exch	11% 1990	103¼	..	10.6	8.904
110¾	99¾	Exch	12½% 1990	106¾	..	11.7	8.985
92¾	84¼	Treas	3% 1990	92¾	+¼	3.2	7.050
100	93¾	Treas	8¼% 1987-90	99¾	..	8.32	8.706
105	94¾	Treas	10% 1990	102¾	● ..	9.7	8.963
91¼	80¾	Exch	2½% 1990	90	..	2.78	6.811
110¾	96¾	Treas C	10% 1991	103¾	-¼	9.6	8.552
110¾	101¾	Treas	11¾% 1991	106¾	..	11.0	9.021

1987/88 High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
34	6½	Jackson	9½	11	f +½	..	.	..
40	10	KCA Drilling	17	19	-2	..	..	7.6
397	161	LASMO (aa)	343	345	+9	13.0e	3.8	85.2
233	140	Do Units	160	180	●-3	41.7	24.5	.
62	12	Marinex	22	24	-1	..	..	..
68	14	New London Oil	18	20	-2	..	..	..
98	11½	Oil Search	40	43	-2	..	..	..
166	49	Petrocon	45	52	-2	2.5	5.1	7.8
5¾	1	Petrax	0¾	1¼	-¼	..	..	..
80½	33	Premier	59	61	-1	..	..	31.7
428	195	Ranger	322	327	+5	..	..	..
89¾	56	Royal Dutch	62⅞	-	-2¼			
15¼	920	Shell (aa)	10¼	10¼	●	65.8	6.4	10.8
382	158	Saxelene	313	323	-3	12.3	3.9	10.0
145	38	Sovereign	100	105	..	..	..	6.6
55½	12	TR Energy	12	14	..	..	..	12.7
35	8	Target	8	11	+1			

1987/88 High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
323	118	Mackay (Hugh)	300	320	-5	9.6	3.1	14.1
67	25	Marton	43	48	f ..	..	..	..
245	115	Parkland 'A'	175	180	-5	7.1	4.0	12.8
111	44½	Readicut	63	68	-2	3.2	4.9	10.9
228	109	SEET	145	155	●-10	7.3	4.9	12.2
198	116	Sekers	153	158	-2	3.8	2.4	11.5
176	78	Seder	98	102	●-2	7.1	7.0	14.4
205	70	Smallshaw (R)	110	120	..	3.8	3.3	10.8
130	32	Stoddard	65	70	..	3.1b	4.6	8.2
253	133	Textured Jersey	170	180	●-3	8.6	4.9	14.7
600	246	Tomkinsons	480	500	-10	9.8	2.0	13.3
164	67½	Tootal	95	98	-3	8.2	8.4	8.6
169	30	West Trust	33	40	-1	3.4e	9.2	12.5
376	175	Yorklyde	198	208	-2	10.3	5.1	8.3

TOBACCOS

1987/88 High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
709	389	BAT (aa)	423	427	-15	23.2	5.5	8.1
138	118	Carreras	125	140	..	..	..	..
499	177	Rothmans 'B' (aa)	420	424	-6	11.2	2.7	11.7

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

PERSPECTIVE

Last call for a UK place in space

By Pearce Wright

Science editor

The British government still has a last chance to join part of the long term European space programme, which it rejected totally last November. The decision would add little to Britain's current spending of £116 million a year on space, and would be funded partly by money released from projects reaching their end.

More important, the UK needs to grasp the opportunity, otherwise the spending of £10 million on a new National Remote Sensing Centre, at Farnborough, in Hampshire, will be a waste of money.

If the Government fails on this collaborative research venture with Europe, it will slam the door for British industry on and area of application of space technology that will eventually become a private-sector activity.

The issues are certain to be aired tomorrow, when the House of Lords debates the report, *United Kingdom Space Policy*, from its committee on science and technology. But the point of no return comes on April 12, when a meeting of the European Space Agency will let the industrial contracts that have been accepted by a group known as the Colombus Programme Board.

The name Colombus is given to four projects aimed at developing new applications in space technology. One is a big satellite called the Polar Platform, designed for continuous observation of our planet: monitoring the environment, providing data to exploit the earth's mineral and renewable resources, as well as providing warning of potential hazards on land, at sea and in the atmosphere.

Design work for the Polar Platform has been led by British Aerospace. But under the space agency's rules, the contract to build the satellite must go to one of the 12 European countries taking part in the European Long Term Space Programme.

Britain's return to the Colombus part of the programme, for about an extra £15 million a year, excludes any commitment to the high-spending projects, which provoked such a shudder in Number 10 last year.

Mrs Thatcher is known to be attracted to the high-technology benefits of space, but to resist open-ended proposals that carry the threat of spiralling costs, which is how the British government sees the French-inspired Hermes manned shuttle, another section of the programme.

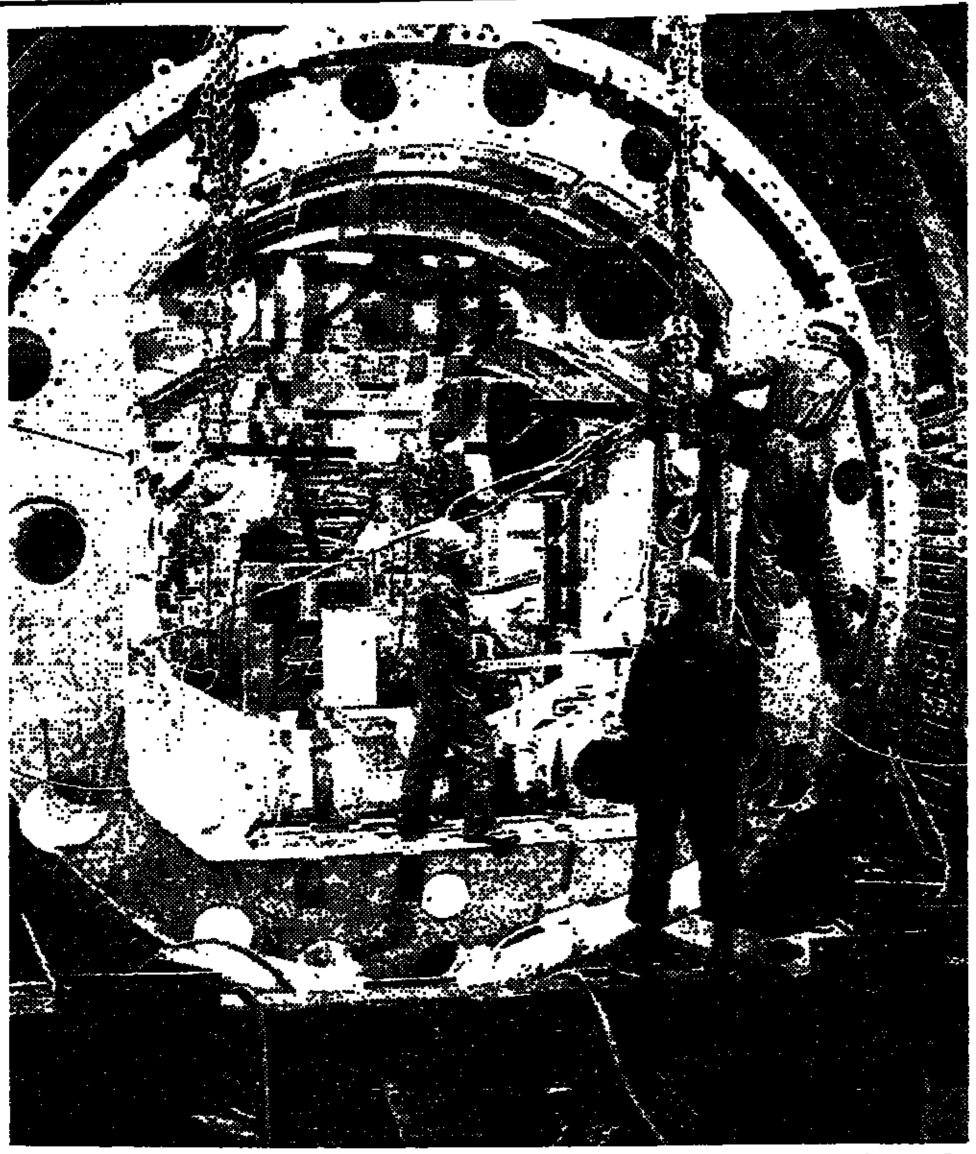
Though Concorde now makes handsome profits, the development phase when costs seem to be spiralling without an end in sight has left deep scars in Whitehall. But it is the French who have devised a way of analysing ambitious projects for technological risks, commercial risks and time-scales.

At least one of those three factors has to be favourable to make a private-sector activity. Otherwise, it is a question of government funding, which of course depends on motivations.

As the Channel Tunnel shows, advances in technology, in this case in civil engineering, can reduce the technical risk and, as a consequence, a project's time-scale. Hence a wild aspiration first voiced a century ago has been transformed into a paying proposition. Similarly, the commercial prospects for earth observation by remote sensing from space is not too difficult to predict.

Weather satellites are perfect examples of observation vehicles, and demonstrate that the technical risk is low. But the market on the ground is still immature. Departments of defence are prime customers for observation data from space. But they cling to their own special satellites, and have yet to recognize that satellites can share defence and civil applications without compromising security.

Other government agencies are forming a growing boom of civil customers for using data from space in the development and planning of resources.


The Channel Tunnel: technology advances can reduce risks and thus a project's time-scale

Long voyage of an old IBM

By Trevor Huggins

As IBM prepares to ship its latest 3090 monster mainframe and DEC puts the finishing touches to its quad-processor 8000 series, Czechoslovakia is still trying to figure out what these companies did more than 10 years ago.

Computer production in the Eastern bloc is both alive and well. The architecture which has dominated the West for more than a decade can be found throughout the Comecon countries.

The Czech industry is highly organised, with the government accounting for more than 90 per cent of production, through the Federal Ministry of Electrical Engineering. This, in turn, owns the national computer company ZVT, which produces IBM-compatible mainframes, DEC-compatible minicomputers and IBM PC clones.

For nostalgia buffs, Czechoslovakia is a veritable paradise. Prague University, for example, is still selling a 15-year-old ICL System 4/72, which refuses to die. Operated five days during the week, it is patched every Saturday and has Sunday off.

East European mainframe production is co-ordinated so that different countries are responsible for different parts of a system. A single range, called the United System, is based on IBM's S/370 computers of the previous decade. Czechoslovakia builds the entry-level EC 1027, equivalent to the 370/20, at its Prague mainframe centre.

The minister's chief adviser, Ivan Malec, says that because components are in short supply, the number of processors built is small — 100 a year. Reliability is a sensitive issue. In the West, a PC should start first time and a mainframe run smoothly after a few weeks.

> At least half the production is destined for the hard-currency countries

In Czechoslovakia, Mr Malec said, "Reliability is a problem for the first three years, but afterwards it reaches a satisfactory level".

If IBM's mainframe technology has been reproduced with eastern-bloc components, so has Digital Equipment's PDP-11 and VAX minicomputers. Together, 400 to 500 of the DEC-styled machines are built each year. The only computers built in any real volume by ZVT are micros, which this year will be IBM-compatible.

Previously, ZVT built 8-bit machines with two 8in. disc drives and a proprietary operating system. Mr Malec said that both are based on a Soviet-manufactured microprocessor compatible with Intel's 286 chip.

Building microcomputers is not, however, the preserve of the ministry. An exotic assortment of semi-independent companies, ranging from engineers to agricultural co-operatives, are also showing an interest in the PC business. An office-equipment company, Kencalarske Stroje, imports PC/XT and PC/AT kits from Hong Kong, for example, and a farming co-operative called Slusovice has started importing Taiwan kits.

Such firms will not be content with supplying the local market. At least half their production is destined for the hard-currency countries to the West. It is almost certain that later this year, British buyers will be offered PCs bearing the stamp "Made in Czechoslovakia".

Having started out from factories in Greenock, Scotland, IBM's PC technology looks set to return after a very long journey.

Secret agreement on PCs revealed

Apple Computer and Microsoft have publicized a secret agreement made in 1985 that gives Microsoft the right to use certain visual displays available on Macintosh personal computers.

The news comes in the light of an Apple suit earlier this month against both Microsoft and Hewlett-Packard, claiming copyright has been infringed. But the companies disagree on the limits of the agreement.

Earlier this monthApple sued Microsoft and the Hewlett-Packard Company, contending that Microsoft's Windows 2.03 program and Hewlett's New Wave program violate Apple's copyrights on the Macintosh displays.

Microsoft said it was confident that no visual displays in Windows 2.03 exceed the 1985 agreement, which applied to Windows, a program for the IBM personal computer and compatibles, and to various Microsoft programs for the Macintosh.

In the 1985 agreement, Microsoft acknowledged that the displays in those programs were derivative of the Macintosh. In return, Apple granted Microsoft "a non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free, perpetual, non-transferable license to use these derivative works in present and future software programs and to license them to and through third parties for use in their software programs."

William Neukom, Microsoft's vice president for law and corporate affairs, said:"We are pleased to have this agreement out in the open." He added that Microsoft would not change any plans regarding Windows as a result of the litigation.

But Apple contends that the agreement was limited to the visual displays in Version 1.0 of Windows, and that the Version 2.03 displays infringe on its copyrights.
Carleen LeVasseur, an Apple spokeswoman, said: "We feel Microsoft has exceeded the limits of the agreement. As far back as mid-1986, they were advised that the agreement was limited to 1.0."

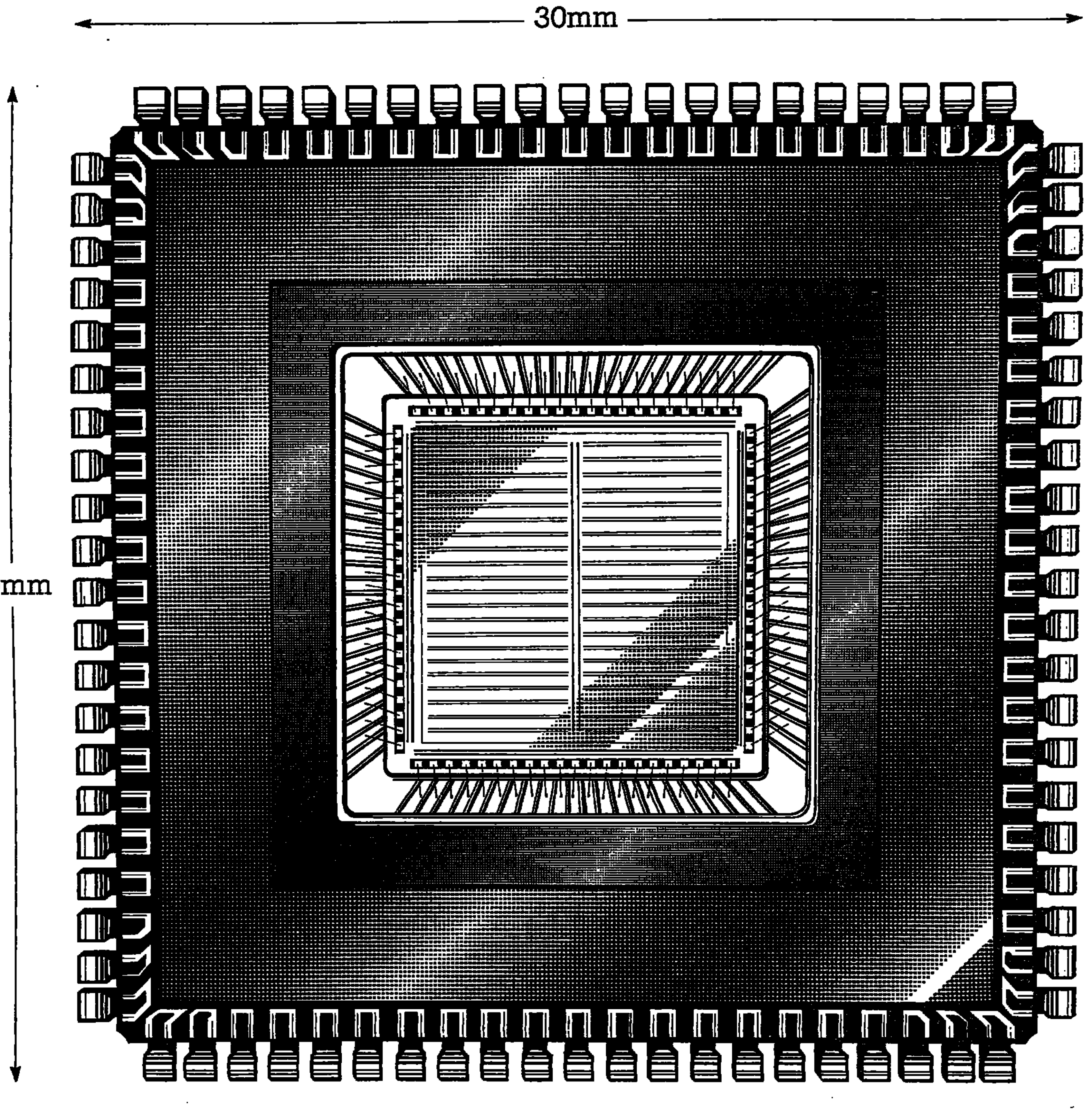
Because Windows 2.03 is visually nearly identical to Presentation Manager, the software that Microsoft is developing for the next generation of IBM PCs, some analysts say this lawsuit is a preliminary move for Apple.

If it is successful, they say, it will try to block that Macintosh-like product from reaching the market.

Benefit of a network

The computing network linking the UK's 1,000 benefit offices was officially inaugurated last week. It includes 10 mainframes, more than 900 minicomputers and printers and nearly 12,000 terminals. Known as TRES, terminal replacement system, the network is the biggest in Europe to comply with the specifications of open systems interconnection (OSI).

The £33 million contract was awarded to Honeywell Bull early in 1985 by the Department of Health and Social Security.



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TECHNOLOGY/2

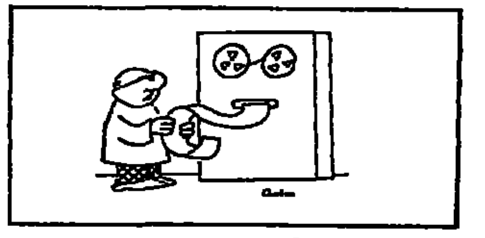
Write a caption and go to the Tropics

To err is human, but to foul things up properly, you need a computer . . . as we wrote last year, the old ones are still the best. Somewhere in almost every organization is someone who has been unwittingly made to look a fool by a computer. Many would like to get their own back.

Now that the beasts can communicate, the capability to foul things can spread planet-wide like the most virulent of viruses.

Last year, The Times/ CMG computing humour competition sought evidence of a connection between information technology and jocularity. This year, all we are asking you to do is to provide a new caption to an illustration that we will provide. It should preferably be one that is computing, new technology or IT-related, whichever you care to lean towards.

Each week there will be two illustrations to pick from, each of which will carry its original caption. You need think of a new caption for only one of them, though you may submit as many captions as you please for either or both, using a coupon in each case.



"I'll thank you to stop referring to me as 'protoplasm head' "

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- ● Three second prizes: long weekends with two nights in beautifully sited and comfortable hotels, with all travel paid. We give you a choice of four islands: Jersey in the Channel, Skye and Mull off the west coast of Scotland, and the spa centre of Heligoland off the north-west coast of Germany.

In addition, the winners and runners-up – the best of the rest – will receive suitably inscribed and framed copies of the cartoons which show both the original and the new captions. For the runners up there will be the consolation of something to toast the recognition.

How to enter:

Cut out the appropriate cartoon shown here and *The Times*/CMG competition logo at the top of this page, write your captions clearly on a sheet of paper and attach to the appropriate cartoon with the logo, and then add your name and address and day-time phone number (if any).Send your entry to: *The Times*/CMG Humour Competition, 29 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9BU, to arrive no later than Tuesday April 5. The first of the weekly winners will be announced on April 12 – two weeks from today – when we shall publish the winning entry and a selection of the first week's entries considered worthy of publication and deserving a runner's-up framed cartoon.

Further selections will be published on the two following Tuesdays with in each case, a weekly winner and runners-up. The last week's winning entries will be published on May 3 when we shall also announce the first prize for the best of the four weeks' entries.

The winners' lunch will be in London on May 17. The winners unable to attend will be sent a generous voucher for lunch at a local restaurant at a time of their choice.

● *The rules:*

1. The prizes will be awarded to the entrants whose contributions are, in the opinion of the judges, the best submitted.

2. All entries should be original, as far as the entrant is aware, although appropriate existing phrases that are familiar and fit are allowable.

3. Any number of entries may be submitted, provided *The Times*/CMG logo is attached to every one.

4. The competition is not open to employees of Times Newspapers Ltd and its associated companies or CMG Computer Management Group (UK) Ltd or any of its subsidiaries, and those employees' families.

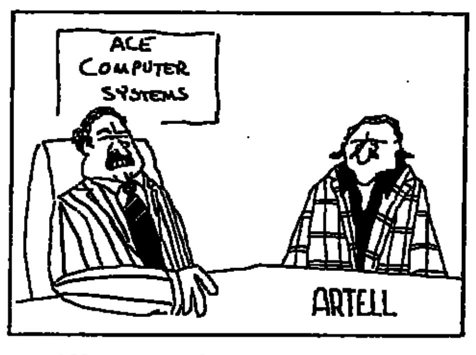
5. The judges' decisions will be at all times final and no correspondence will be entered into.

6. Entries are not returnable.

The judges:

- ● Heinz Woolf, director, Brunel Institute for Bioengineering publicly best known for his invigilation of the long-running BBC Television Series, *The Great Egg Race.*
- ● John Rioch, a National Director of CMG Computer Management Group UK Ltd.
- ● Rex Malik, technology journalist, collector of jokes and setter of this competition.

Roger Penwill, architect and winner of last year's The Times/CMG Computing Humour competition. We hope that it will become a tradition that one year's winner will become a judge the next year.



"Your system hasn't been delivered because of a parts shortage. The part we're short of is your cheque"

THE TIMES CMG

HUMOUR COMPETITION

WEEK ONE

A quiet chuckle from the CMG

What's so funny about CMG? After all, the company, 25 next year, has a rather sober public reputation.

When Bob Fawcett, Doug Gorman and Brian Mills founded Computer Management Group, they had to learn to repress their sense of humour.

Computer bureaux and computer management services were thought of as branches of accountancy, and demanded appropriate behaviour and suitable public gravitas from their practitioners.

After last year's sponsorship by CMG of our computing humour competition, there were some who hinted they did not think jokes were CMG's strong suit.

CMG can afford a quiet chuckle now. This year the group entered *The Times* 1,000 list and did so at position 1,000, where one gets noticed.

They are not only Europe's largest independent computer-services management company, but the only one on that list to be owned entirely by active employees and their dependents.

They have 1,200 staff, with a turnover in 1987 of a little over £60 million, a 16 per cent increase over 1986, and a profit before tax of £5.8 million, a rise of 25 per cent. More than 50 per cent of revenues are realized abroad, mostly on the Continent. Headquarters are in the Netherlands .

That leaves CMG confident that we can generate a laugh or two out of situations which provide their bread and butter.

A magic factory at their touch

Associate professor Joe Beaman, right, shows a plastic model created by Carl Deckard

By Matthew May

A new process that allows three dimensional computer drawings to be automatically turned into physical objects has been developed by a graduate student at the University of Texas.

It is seen as the first step towards the sort of computer manufacturing envisaged by science fiction writers where consumers will be able to request a product from their computer and have it instantly manufactured.

So far inventor Carl Deckard's process produces plastic models but the system is likely to have almost immediate commercial applications in designing intricate three-dimensional protoypes within minutes of a design being finished on a computer.

When the process becomes more sophisticated it holds out the promise of considerably reducing the cost of making prototypes for industrial parts or scale models for architectural projects.

The process , called "selective laser sintering" uses granulated plastic, or similar substances, poured into a tank about the same size as a computer terminal.

Thin layers of the plastic powder are steadily built up with a computer controlled laser beam heating certain areas of each layer until it melts into a solid shape.

A roller mechanism moves over the layers keeping the plastic smooth. Unwanted parts of each layer stay in powder form and can be simply removed.

> 'You could feed the measurements into the computer, let the machine make the wax model, then use the lost wax process to cast it'

The system can also be used to make moulds. "Just think of designing a piece of sculpture" says Mr Deckard's associate professor, Joe Beaman.

"You could feed the measurements into the computer, let the machine make the wax model, then use the lost wax process to cast it.

"There is no limit to the kinds of things we can do with this product once it is fully developed."

Dubbed "desktop manufacturing", designs can be fed in from conventional computer-aided-design software and the models can include complex internal shapes – hollow cubes within other cubes for example.

So far the examples produced have been about the size of a cigarette packet but Mr Deckard believes the precision and size of the objects could be much larger or smaller.

An application for a patent for the process has been filed and the university has given exclusive licensing rights to a local firm which has formed a new company – Nova Automation – in conjuction with the university to exploit the technology.

Other firms in the US are also working on similar projects, said Dr Beaman, with one – from California-based 3D Systems – expected to deliver the first of its £90,000 systems in May.

It is being tested by General Motors and Kodak.

Other processes based on liquids and metals are also being investigated though Dr Beaman argues their powder based system will be less expensive and more sophisticated.

EVENTS

- ■ **Computers in Retailing,** Metropole Hotel, Brighton (01-834 1717)
- ■ **Scottish Computer Show,** April 12-14, Glasgow (01-891 5051)
- ■ **Computer Recruitment Fair,** April 15-16, New Century Hall, Manchester (0491 681010)
- ■ **Atari User Show,** April 22-24, West Hall, Alexandra Park, London (0625 878888)
- ■ **Computer Recruitment Fair,** April 22-23, Watershed, Bristol (0491 681010)
- ■ **British Electronics Week,** April 26-28, Olympia, London
- ■ **Computers in Manufacturing,** May 10-12, Olympia, London (0372 372842)
- ■ **Copiers 88,** May 24-26, Business Design Centre, London (01-940 6065)
- ■ **Amstrad Computer Show,** May 26-28, Great Hall, Alexandra Park, London (0625 878888)
- ■ **Computer Recruitment Fair,** July 1-2, Rainbow Rooms, London (0491 681010)
- ■ **Amstrad Computer Show,** October 21-23, Windsor Hall, GMEX, Manchester (0625 87888)

Jobs are developing but the skills are still lagging behind demand

RECRUITMENT

By Geof Wheelwright

Technology-related jobs in Britain are on the increase, but some industry experts say that great changes will be required to educational and management planning if the growth is to continue.

The type of growth taking place is perhaps typified by the opening of Compaq's new £16 million personal computer manufacturing plant at Erskine, Scotland, earlier this month.

The facility will eventually employ more than 350 people and the company promises to buy most of the materials and components from local Scottish suppliers.

Murray Francois, managing director of Compaq Computer Manufacturing, said the company is pleased with the level of professionalism in the local staff it has hired. He added: "If those to come match the high level of those already recruited, this will be another confirmation of how right we were to locate in Scotland."

But according to Ian Ashworth, a London-based head-hunter for high-technology companies, the UK still has a lot to do if it is to offer enough skilled professionals to meet an ever-increasing demand.

He suggests the problem is particularly acute among those with both technical and management skills.

"Inevitably," he said, "this country went along with every other western industrialized country in finding enough well-qualified engineers in all spheres, but it is difficult enough to find a managing director for a high-technology firm at the moment without then compounding that problem by requiring them also to be an engineer.

"The problem is that we don't have enough graduate engineers coming into the jobs market in sufficient quantity."

To rectify this skills shortage, Mr Ashworth recommends a revamping of the schools system with children being encouraged to develop skills in scientific subjects much earlier in their educational careers.

He said that high-technology companies should be helping to bring about this change themselves.

"Companies should provide equipment at schools on a voluntary basis, should give talks to schools, provide tours of their facilities – and generally given encouragement to enter into industry in an engineering capacity," he added.

"Children with skills should be sponsored by companies so that he or she must come out of university and must work with that company for up to three years – or perhaps 12 to 18 months with one company and the rest with another non-copmpetitive firm."

That is not, however, the view of John Imlay, president of MSA, a big US software firm. He recently gave a speech to the Scottish Institute of Directors on the use of technology in industry.

The real changes had to come about within industry at the board level. This was already happening in the United States, he added, where many companies now have a chief information officer (CIO), who sits on the board of directors.

Despite the rise of data-processing people to board level, Mr Imlay believes that board members themselves are no longer as accepting of statements about technology made by the CIO and his or her staff.

"There is no more mystery man, instead there is a business visison" he said of the operation of modern US boards of directors.

"The role of information technology is now played as a competitive weapon in industry, rather than an internal company service.

"You beat the competiton with systems that get information quicker to do work better – the computer becomes the heartbeat of the company rather than just a service tool."

Mr Imlay also suggested that any slowness in the use of technology throughout the company comes from the top – not the bottom.

He said: "Still fewer than 1 per cent of CEOs use a personal computer and the rest wont until you make it extremely easy."

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TECHNOLOGY/3

Uneven portions of chips make America re-think its strategy

By Peter Coy

American electronics companies are starved for computer chips, Japanese chip makers are raking in windfall profits, and nobody seems quite sure what to do.

This is the way of the world in the electronics industry, circa March 1988. It did not have to be this way.

The current worldwide shortage in computer chips is a classic manifestation of the Law of Unintended Consequences, one that has resulted in higher prices of electronic products and even delays in the introduction of some new computers.

One big reason for the shortage is unobjectionable: booming sales of personal computers and the retooling for a new generation of memory chips have combined to produce a cyclical squeeze on production capacity.

But another reason for the shortage is that a 1986 chip agreement between the United States and Japan has backfired in a way that should have been predictable.

The accord, intended to benefit American chip manufacturers, was supposed to keep the Japanese from "dumping" chips at unfairly low prices while giving the Americans better access to Japan's huge market.

What actually came about was the creation of a *de facto* semiconductor cartel – a legalized form of collusion that had the effect of setting prices above market levels and carving up markets.

The Japanese did raise prices of memory chips, mainly by limiting production, but the main beneficiaries were just two US companies: Texas Instruments and a tiny firm in Idaho – Micron Technology.

Texas Instruments and Micron are the only American companies still selling dynamic random access memory chips, or D-RAMs, and they are earning a windfall.

Meanwhile, US companies such as Digital Equipment and Hewlett-Packard are paying more for chips than their foreign rivals pay.

As for US access to the Japanese market, it is not happening.

In Japan, Americans are bumping their heads against a concrete ceiling. For one thing, the biggest consumers of chips in Japan are also the biggest producers. It is unlikely they will buy from the US when they can take chips right off their own fabrication lines.

More worrying in the long run for any country with pretensions towards remaining in the industry is that the high prices which Japanese chip makers are fetching under the accord is giving them even more money to pour into their world-leading research and development.

In exactly the same way that Japanese automakers responded to "voluntary" restraints by moving upmarket Japanese chip makers are also beginning to move upscale with more complex, expensive chips that have been the domain of the Americans. The American chip industry needs to be rebuilt so that it can compete with the Japanese but without the need for a de facto cartel. The 1986 accord has already been legally challenged by the EEC.

Sematech, a group of US firms set up to try and compete with the Japanese could be a step in the right direction.

A bigger problem for the Americans is that many of their leading chip makers, such as Intel and National Semiconductor, are only mid-sized companies that lack the deep pockets to compete with Japanese giants such as Hitachi and Toshiba.

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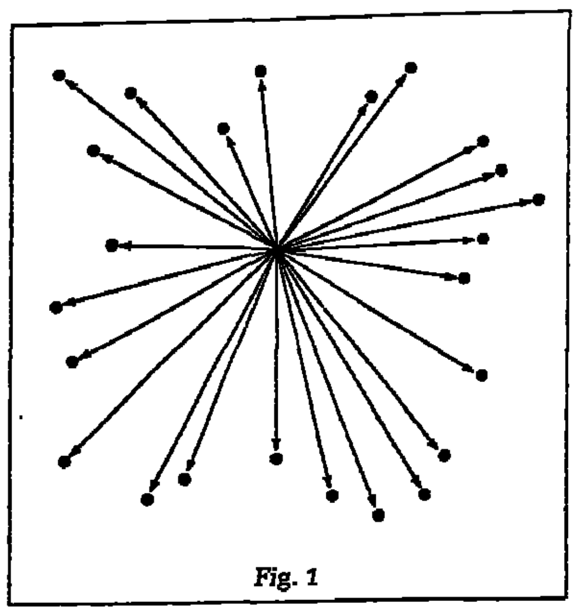
Fig. 1

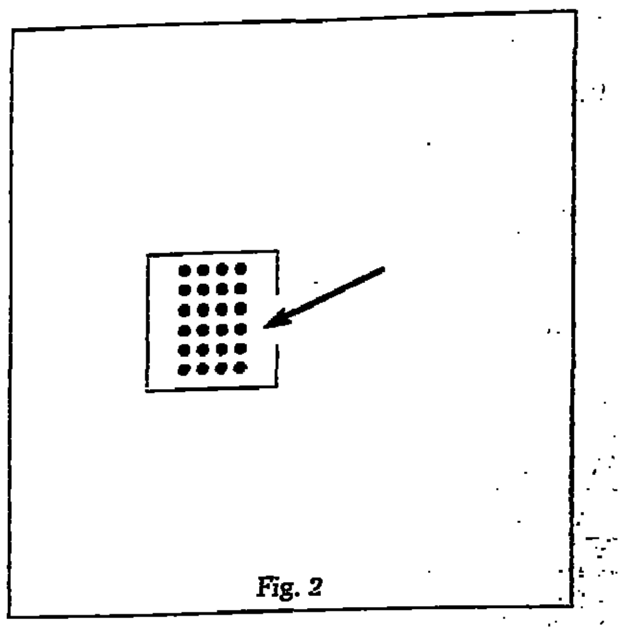
Fig. 2

HOW TO FIND A NEW JOB.

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Fig. 2: Visit a Recruitment Fair. There you will find hundreds of jobs with dozens of leading employers, all under one roof.

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LEGAL APPOINTMENTS APPEAR ON PAGES 38 - 43

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JOBSCENE

The chemistry doesn't work

By Caroline Berman

Whether it's for ethical or any other reasons, the pharmaceutical industry is finding it very difficult to recruit staff for its computer divisions.

"We've lost five people in four months and are trying to recruit," said David Lamb, data processing manager at Merck Sharp and Dohme.

"I don't see it as the pharmaceutical industry, but more as a manufacturing company. The advantages are the company benefits and exciting projects, such as communications between different machines."

Mr Lamb says the computer systems are as in any other manufacturing industry — with financial systems, stock control, production planning, scheduling and quality control, although there are also clinical trials to monitor."We use commercial systems and look for people experienced in System 38 RPG III."

Training their own graduates

There are about 50 people in the computer department at Roche Products, and Stewart Branch, the MIS manager, explained that there is a traditional commerical data processing group and a scientific and technical computer system where clinical research is done. Most work is done on IBM 370 or IBM 4381 and a DEC VAX for the scientific work.

The pharmaceutical research is divided into preclinical, where new compounds are developed, and clinical, which tests whether they are safe and effective.

"In the pre-clinical area you use sophisticated computing methods to support development of drugs. Chemists need sophisticated graphical images of molecules. In the clinical area there are large databases of data to analyse," Mr Branch said. In the commercial area there are the usual finance, marketing and personnel systems.

"It's very difficult to recruit good experienced staff so we've developed a policy of recruiting graduates and training them."

Mr Branch admitted that one of the problems was the location, in Welwyn: "Welwyn is expensive and competes with central London. There are none of the benefits of living in a cheap places, but no high salaries either."

But there are compensations: "It's a high tech business. It tends to keep up to date and is very competitive. It provides a good place to learn about computing."

Another view is given by a North American manager. He has worked in the UK for two years and believes the problems of the pharmaceutical industry are symptomatic of several areas of British computing. He is distinctly unimpressed with the quality of British staff available.

"I was appalled by the level of technical incompetence here. I had to bring in foreigners to get things done," he said. "I hired someone who was Japanese and because of his technical skill and work ethics he does the job of four people."

He also complains it is difficult to find competent middle managers. "There is a casual and blasé approach to business," he says. "I work for rewards based on performance. In Britain rewards are for longevity, not performance. It's very upsetting.

Rewards given for longevity in UK

"The British don't want to find out why something won't work, they just moan about things. They are non-reactory. The British have more good ideas than elsewhere but executing them and bringing them to market is another matter."

Many will disagree with such a bleak view but there are others who believe that the chronic shortage of skilled information technology staff does little to raise standards.

Dr Tim Higenbottam and staff with a patient in the Bronchoscopy Suite at Papworth Hospital using a fibre optic bronchoscope to perform a lung biopsy

Early rejection detection

Brian Collett examines a new approach to the prevention of lung transplant rejection

A new technique aimed at saving and prolonging the lives of heart-lung transplant recipients is now being attempted at the pioneering Papworth Hospital in Cambridgeshire.

Researchers hope the examination of "washings" from the lungs of patients who have had the combined transplants will give more reliable indications of lung rejection than any other previously used methods.

The value of detecting rejection of a donated organ early is obvious — the information allows the transplant specialist immediately to give immunosuppressive therapy that could save the patient's life.

The new technique involves threading a bronchoscope down the windpipe into the lung and pumping out a minute amount of saline solution. The solution is then sucked back, along with a few lung cells.

Any signs of rejection, however, are looked for in the lymphocytes contained in the tissue sample, not in the cell tissue itself.

Lymphocytes, part of the natural immune system, recognize foreign bodies, such as bacteria and donated tissue, and produce the antibodies that help to destroy them. This is the actual process of rejection.

Dr Tim Higenbottam, a member of the Papworth transplant team, explains: "In rejection the lymphocytes proliferate and attack the donated organ. We hope to learn a lot about rejection from the change in the pattern of the lymphocytes."

Other tests are less informative than lymphocyte examination is expected to prove.

X-rays, stethoscope soundings and measurements of breathing function cannot distinguish between infection and rejection. The biopsy method, in which a tiny forceps on the end of a bronchoscope nicks out a small amount of lung tissue, also has its limitations. In this exercise only the transplanted lung cells themselves can be depended on to give information as it is difficult to retrieve the lymphocytes from the sample undamaged. And the cells do not indicate whether rejection is developing or receding.

The washing method, known as broncho-alveolar lavage, brings out undamaged lymphocytes for examination. The researchers aim to show that the changes in the lymphocyte structure occur only in rejection, not in infection, and also hope to discover much more about the rejection process from these changes.

The patient's own observations after discharge from hospital are vital to the work. When the patient blows into an instrument called a spirometer he can tell from the reading whether there is any loss of elasticity in his new lungs, a common indication that rejection is starting. He can then raise the alarm.

The research is being done by Dr Higenbottam and John Wallwork, a heart and chest surgeon at Papworth, with a £60,000 British Lung Foundation grant given by the pharmaceutical company Duncan Flockhart.

The two researchers aim eventually to perfect their recognition of rejection by this method and establish a reliable clinical technique.

Heart-lung transplant recipients in whom rejection is detected early and remedied would benefit in one other important respect. Fibrosis, or thickening of the lungs, caused by repeated rejection and leading to breathlessness, could be minimized.

Parallel research is being conducted at St George's Hospital Medical School in south London with a British Lung Foundation grant of £22,700.

In this study John Pepper, a chest and heart surgeon, and Dr John Kirby, a research fellow at the medical school, have transplanted lungs into rats and found that the number of lymphocytes in peripheral blood samples taken from them mirror the rejection.

PROFILE

Hunting for an Inmos successor

By Simon Parry

Doug Stevenson, chief executive officer of Inmos, the silicon chip firm has "done his whack."

At 63 one of Mr Stevenson's final jobs will be to find a successor in his role as Inmos caretaker. "I'm looking forward to him coming in," he said, "I started in 1940 at the age of 14, I'd now like to spend time with my family."

Four years ago the genial Scotsman was consultant to the Thorn-EMI board. Together with Colin Southgate he fought hard to prevent the purchase of Inmos, the firm best known for its Transputer — a computer on a chip. They lost, and Mr Stevenson was then made chief executive with the un-enviable task of cutting its huge costs.

Doug Stevenson, Inmos chief executive: seeking new alliances

Thorn-EMI bought Inmos for £95 million in 1984 but then, over the next three years had to invest close on £200 million to keep the company alfoat during a time when the silicon chip industry was going through its deepest and most vicious recession.

It is a tribute to Mr Stevenson's professionalism that he carried out the restructuring with relatively little pain.

True, Inmos announced the closure of its US plant in Colorado Springs just before Christmas with the loss of 300 jobs but that is considered small beer against some of the wholesale redundancies some of the large companies had to make.

It was not a task Mr Stevenson relished. "Restructuring is not for fools or children," he said, "just understanding the charts is not enough. I think I have experienced in the last year emotion a general manager is prone to, but at the moment I am starting to see blue skies."

There is good news on the horizon he said and if the Thorn-EMI board has sometimes viewed progress with dismay it continued to give its full support.

But while Inmos is now financially strong enough to stand on its feet, the firm and its operations are "peripheral" to Thorn-EMI's main strategy. Hence Mr Stevenson is masterminding efforts to find a partner for the company.

There is nothing unusual or shocking about that intention, said Mr Stevenson. Most silicon chip manufacturers form alliances with firms that build computer systems. That way they share costs and have a ready market for any new chip. "Even the great IBM is forming alliances," he said.

Mr Stevenson is convinced the silicon chip industry will continue to develop along those lines. The silicon chip market is a world market and Inmos, and any other UK chip firm, had better think along those lines. "We do that or die, that is the unpalatable option," he said.

"Semiconductor firms must also collaborate to remain competitive, there is no single area of invincibility where the Japanese cannot attack."

Mr Stevenson also believes government funding for this industry ought to be spent on applications of products not in developing the base technology to make those products.

He is not keen on the preoccupation of the rest of the UK chip industry on "asics" — bespoke chips tailored to a customer's requirements. "Plesey", he said, "would seem to have a more difficult job of becoming a moderately large and successful semiconductor company."

As for Inmos Mr Stevenson is convinced it will become a successful middle rank company with yearly revenues in the $500 million range.

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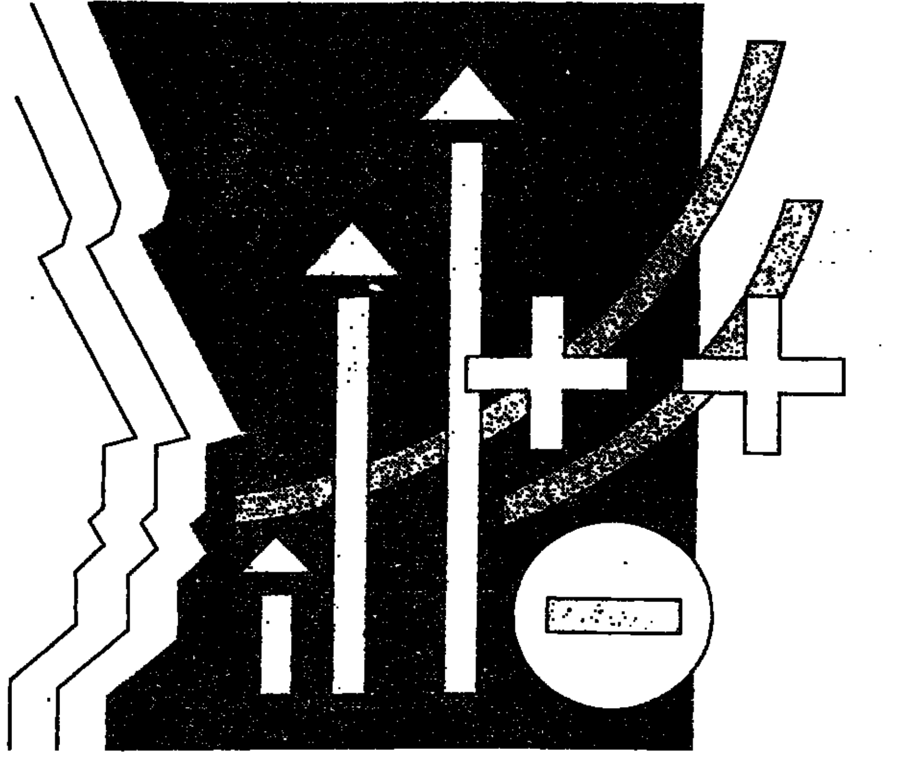

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A super creation on a pin

■ A powerful electron microscope capable of writing the entire contents of the Encyclopaedia Brittanica on a pinhead was formally switched on at the University of Liverpool last week. "Using this instrument we can write one million lines side by side in the width of a pencil line, or drill one million holes on the head of a pin" said Professor Colin Humphreys of the university's Department of Materials Science and Engineering. "To understand the precision required to do this you must imagine that you are sitting in a satellite trying to paint the window frame of a dolls house on the surface of the earth using a paint brush with a handle 100 miles long".

■ The increasing use of electronic mail systems for contract negotiations is likely to lead problems in the event of a dispute involving the courts. While courts accept telexes as evidence one immediate problem of electronic mail is proving the message was transmitted if no hard copy exists. But there are further problems according to researchers from the City of London Polytechnic. In an investigation they identified that problems can arise even where the facts are agreed by both sides in a dispute. For example they cite the case of when parties to a contract are in different countries at the time of making an electronic agreement where is the contract legally made? Does sending an electronic mail message have the same legal effect as posting a letter – which can create a contract? According to Julian Newman, prinicipal lecturer in Office Technology at the polytechnic the findings are "particulairy important for smaller businesses, who are often the first to use public mailbox systems rather than have their own telex."

I suggest you also look at the computer picture. For a start, the colour graphics are nicer.

BRIEFING

■ A Japanese court gave suspended prison terms to two former Toshiba executives last week and US military bases stopped selling the company's products because of its exports of strategic goods to the Soviet Union. The court fined the Toshiba subsidiary responsible for the exports, Toshiba Machine, yen 2 million (about £8,000) for violating Japan's Foreign Exchange Control Law. The defendants resigned after being accused of selling computer-controlled propeller milling machines and related software to the Soviets between 1982 and 1984 without obtaining government permission. Post exchanges at all US military bases were ordered last Tuesday to take Toshiba televisions, stereos and other products off their shelves as part of sanctions that prohibit the Department of Defence from purchasing Toshiba goods.

■ Shares of the Lotus Development dropped 15 per cent last Wednesday on the announcement that the company would delay shipment of 1-2-3 Release 3, the new version of its mainstay accounting spreadsheet program. Originally scheduled to be shipped by mid-year, Release 3 will now not appear until the winter to allow additional development time, Lotus said. Analysts said the delay would have a significant impact on Lotus' third-quarter and full-year earnings. The delay will also give an opportunity for 1-2-3 competitors, such as the Excel spreadsheet of the Microsoft and Quattro by Borland International. Arthur Andersen recently ordered 4,000 copies of Excel to replace 1-2-3. While the delay of Release 3 may not cause many customers to switch to competing products, it raises the larger question of whether Lotus will also be late on 1-2-3G, the graphic spreadsheet it is developing.

■ Logica is leading a consortium of companies in a contract awarded by the Department of Environment (DOE) to install the first phase of a national radiation monitoring network. A simulation exercise to test the effectiveness of the system will be conducted in the autumn. The new network forms part of the national response plan announced by the prime minister last year following the nuclear accident in Chernobyl in April 1986.

■ Imagine a lipstick that moisturized every time lips are puckered or kissed, or a foot powder that provided more antifungal relief with every step. These are two of many applications now possible with microsponges, microscopic synthetic spheres that can be "programmed" to release cosmetic or pharmaceutical agents in response to pressure, time or temperature. Patented last September by Advanced Polymer Systems, a start-up company based in California, microsponges are porous and contain huge networks of interconnected tunnels and surface areas that can be filled with fluids.

Return of the prop-jet

Simon Parry looks at the latest gamble by a giant aircraft manufacturer

Last Tuesday McDonnell Douglas completed the last of its flight tests in California of a prototype of a new aeroplane family that uses a radically different engine.

The fate of the MD90 series, with a power plant that sees a return to propellers, hinges on the outcome of a marketing campaign that formed part of the tests. In the campaign, which began last May a total of 165 flying hours were clocked up demonstrating the plane to airline executives.

The plane is designed for the competitive short to medium-haul market, the sort of aircraft routinely used to fly passengers between European capitals.

This type of aircraft has special needs, principally quiet and fuel-efficient operation, which in turn has called for a departure from the commonplace jet engine.

As fuel costs rise, aircraft designers need to explore new ways of boosting an engine's performance while using considerably less fuel. They can do this by accelerating a larger volume of air past the engine, hence the return to propellors.

An early demonstration flight of an unducted-fan engine

The logical next step

But there isn't even a passing resemblance to the beloved Rolls-Royce Merlin engine of Spitfire fame. The new engine, developed by General Electric of the US in association with the French company, Snecma, is a slightly ugly hybrid.

The rows of counter-rotating propellors – the engineers prefer to call them fan-blades – have been attached to the back of an ordinary small jet-engine core.

This type of engine is generically called an ultra-high bypass (UHB) engine because it derives most of its thrust from accelerating air by means of the fan rather than from exhaust gases.

GE chose this approach because it was the logical next step. But a rival consortium, International Aero Engines in which Rolls-Royce holds a 30 per cent stake, tried to develop an even more radical engine in which the blades were ducted and at the front. This project, dubbed the Superfan, has since been shelved because IAE could not be confident of developing the engine ready for the new aircraft of the early 1990s.

New core to be designed

Dwight Weber, a UDF project engineer at GE in Cincinnatti said the UDF engine was 20 to 25 per cent more fuel-efficient than comparable latest-generation jet engines and nearly 70 per cent more efficient than many of the engines used to power short-haul planes in service today.

When GE begins production, and the company anxiously awaits the outcome of McDonnell Douglas's deliberations, a new core will be designed and the engine will develop 25 000 lb of thrust.

GE has tentative design studies on ducted fan (superfan type) engines but believes such engines will not appear until late next decade.

However, ducted-fan engines do have some advantages over GE's type of engine. They could be used on four-engine planes requiring wing mountings; the MD90 series places its engines high up on the tail.

Keith Sievers, an engineer at Nasa's Lewis Research Centre in Cleveland, has been involved in GE's UDF project. He said a ducted fan was more efficient but greater technical problems had to be overcome. "The superfan will have its day someday", he said, "but I was very surprised when IAE initially said it could have its engine ready at the same time as ours."

McDonnell Douglas is pleased with the GE engine finding that noise and vibration have not been problems. Vibration has been reduced to levels that are imperceptible in most parts of the aircraft.

Don Hanson, a senior engineer on the MD90 project at McDonnell Douglas said that noise levels were a "pleasant surprise".

Mr Hanson's team is obliged by the McDonnell Douglas board to have launch orders before it can proceed into full-scale production delivering aircraft for service in late-1992.

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Thursday 5th May
10am ☐ The Rt Hon Denis Healey, CH MBE "The need to adopt automated information strategies" 1
10.45am ☐ Robert McCord, Relational Technology "Establishing automated information flow throughout the organisation" 2
10.45am ☐ Mike Wood, Digitus "4GL applications development" 3
11.45am ☐ Bob Williams, Relational Technology "Distributed information systems for mainframe users" 4
11.45am ☐ Simon Parry and Andrew Dodd, Sifo "The Sifo Clinical System" 5
12.30pm ☐ Chip Hay, Relational Technology "Workstations in an integrated information system" 6
2pm ☐ Paul Butterworth, Relational Technology "Computer-aided systems engineering" 7
2pm ☐ Peter Rutter, Sun Microsystems "Towards an open application architecture" 8
3pm ☐ Anthony Ramsey, CAP Industry "The information resource dictionary" 9
3pm ☐ Brian Tytherleigh and John Thurston, Insurance Systems and Services "RDBMS in the increasingly dynamic insurance marketplace" 10
4pm ☐ David Grounds, Hoskyns "Systems building in a 4GL environment" 11
4pm ☐ Paul R Lewis, Access Technology "Database connection with spreadsheets" 12
5pm ☐ The Rt Hon The Lord St John of Fawsley "New information strategies in business" 14

Friday 6th May
10am ☐ Dr Robb Wilmot, CBE, OASS "Agenda for change – seizing the initiative" 15
10.45am ☐ Easams Limited "All you ever wanted to know about INGRES but were afraid to ask" 16
11.45am ☐ Tony Webb, Computer Task Group "Successfully implementing relational systems" 17
11.45am ☐ John Mountford, Natural Language International "Natural Language talks INGRES" 18
12.30pm ☐ Bill Jordan, Sequent "The new generation of relational databases and parallel technology" 19
12.30pm ☐ Graham Bird, ICL "INGRES on ICL departmental systems" 20
2pm ☐ Bob Williams, Relational Technology "Distributed information systems for mainframe users" 21
2pm ☐ Paul Butterworth, Relational Technology "Computer-aided systems engineering" 22
3pm ☐ Chip Hay, Relational Technology "Workstations in an integrated information system" 23
3pm ☐ Robert McCord, Relational Technology "Establishing automated information flow throughout the organisation" 24
4pm ☐ Dr Robb Wilmot, CBE, OASS "Agenda for change – seizing the initiative" 25

You're welcome to bring your colleagues. To order more than one ticket for any conference simply write the number required in the box(es).

Exhibitions and demonstrations will be held from 9am to 7pm Thursday 5th May and 9am to 5pm Friday 6th May. Just call in any time.

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The computer industry's most informative event.
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The battle to beat Babel is underway

By David Guest

Machine intelligence met Gallic wit and came off second-best in Paris earlier this month as Texas Instruments (TI) tried to push back the frontiers of technology.

Predictably, language was the stumbling block. TI was unveiling the latest fruit of its massive investment in artificial intelligence to a European press corps.

The product in question was an Apple Macintosh microcomputer adapted by TI to explore new areas of computing potential and hence called a Micro Explorer.

With two US-based companies involved, simultaneous translations were laid on for French, German and Italian speakers. But ordinary intelligence failed when the presentations gave way to a question and answer session.

The declaration that verbal questions would be taken only in English while others would have to be written down provoked some Gallic rumbles of discontent.

It also, inevitably, led to the absurdity – in the capital of France – of a French question being translated into poor English, to be answered in poor English by a Frenchman.

The French contingent began to assume " Allo, Allo" accents in deliberate mockery. One restless native asked a simple question in clear English, but unfortunately it wasn't understood.

"Would you like me to write the question down?" he asked. "Yes, yes" came the reply. The Frenchman, enjoying himself hugely by this time, asked "In capitals?".

All this cast the Micro Explorer in a new light. If human intelligence is imperfectly understood and deployed, surely talk of artificial intelligence is presumptuous in any language?

TI has spent too much time and money building itself into a leading supplier of artificial intelligence products to answer yes readily. What it says is that the Micro Explorer will tackle jobs that computers couldn't previously attempt, breaking free of the convention that computer data must be figures.

The Micro Explorer will not think; instead it will give the impression of knowing. It is based on earlier TI systems which "know" – for example – how to tackle oil slicks or how to assign airport gates to planes of different sizes, and which are doing these jobs for TI customers around the world.

This type of work is called knowledge engineering, and the computer systems that result are usually known as expert systems. They embody a knowledge of rules and procedures imparted either by human experts or by impossibly complicated manuals.

They can be built on ordinary personal computers quite cheaply but the MicroExplorer and its forebears are designed specifically for the purpose, and they run programs that have been equally tightly defined.

In Micro Explorer the TI product is now available for between £11,500 and £20,000 where previously it would have cost three or four times as much. TI argues that this will encourage more people to experiment with and use the technology.

If artificial intelligence is a developing science, it may be expected to develop more quickly the more people that are involved.

صكرا من الاجل

HORIZONS

A guide to career opportunities

The birds and bees down on the farm

Amid all the criticism of farming methods which threatens wildlife, enthusiasts are making a real contribution to conservation and earning a living at the same time says Sally Watts

As a farming conservation adviser (FCA), Joy Greenall encourages farmers to use their land – grasslands, woodlands, wet areas – and their ponds, trees, and hedgerows in such a way that natural life can flourish again and the inhibiting results of agricultural changes can start to be reversed.

This career attracts many people, up to the late forties, who have an interest in conservation and countryside management; men and women with a farming background (often with a degree in agriculture), and, equally important, a knowledge of ecology and wildlife.

The work started less than 10 years ago, since when well over 7,650 farms have been visited. FCAs operate in 41 counties and not only advising farmers.

On one recent wintry day Joy Greenall, who is based in Oxfordshire, visited a publican with a four-acre paddock that he wanted to convert into a small woodland for the enjoyment of his customers, and a parish council seeking advice on how to use a piece of land, complete with pond, for the interest of villagers.

A third visit was to a farmer who was keen to improve old brick pits that had become flooded and choked.

Joy, who has also been coping with Berkshire for two of her three years as an adviser, came to work in her thirties, with a first degree in zoology and an MSc in conservation management. Her previous jobs include adult education, summer warden employment at a nature reserve and working for Cambridgeshire Naturalist Trust. As with other FCAs, her work is helping us to regain our lost flowers and birds.

Advisers only call when farmers ask them to do so."Generally they are keen on conservation, specially if I can point out an interesting bird or flower on their land," she says."We are also able to bring in specialists, such as archaeologists, and advise on grants."

One suggestion offered by FCAs is, instead of ploughing right up to the hedge, leave as wide a space as possible as this enhances the prospect of flowers, butterflies, and partridges, too. Again, if there is a footpath, try to keep it as a grass border.

In the adjoining county, Buckinghamshire's FCA is Dr Chris Smith, who took up the work in his mid-forties after a varied career that included lecturing in agricultural botany to students at Reading University and doing contract work for the Nature Conservancy Council on sites of special scientific interest. He has also headed an agricultural college's countryside department and been regional chairman of a naturalist trust.

"But I've never been happier than in the work I'm doing now", says Chris Smith."You need humility and tact, but it's a way of helping to conserve our countryside by encouraging farmers to do very positive things."

Two-thirds of FCAs are women. One originally trained and worked as a farm secretary, then put herself through an appropriate college course. You could have a few degrees or a higher national diploma, but knowledge and experience matter more than formal qualifications.

"This isn't a career people decide on when leaving school, and the lower age limit is 25", says Mr Eric Carter, national adviser of the Farming and Wildlife Trust."People gravitate towards the work as their knowledge and experience grow. A number are coming forward who applied earlier but lacked wide enough experience."

Two years ago Andrew Webb was serving as an Army officer; today he is finding his feet in his new job as head warden of National Trust property in the Lake District's western area, extending across the beautiful valleys of Duddon, Eskdale, and Wasdale.

During his nine Army years a countryside career was always at the back of his mind, and the idea grew as he saw training and employment opportunities vastly increase compared with what was available when he left school.

After taking stock, Andrew left the Army at 27 with the rank of captain, and joined Merrist Wood Agricultural College's diploma course in countryside recreation. He did voluntary projects to meet the stipulation of a year's pre-college experience in relevant work and for part of the time had no income at all.

Mature students can sometimes afford to be more flexible in using opportunities than 18 year olds. After Andrew's first industrial placement at the NT's Wicken Fen, near Ely, he applied for his present job in the Lake District, even though he had spent only about a year on courses.

His reasons were sound: although countryside recreation is a growth industry, the many courses – including those for volunteers and the unemployed – make job finding increasingly competitive. And he can acquire or improve on specific skills through in-service training, such as the wide range of short courses sponsored by the Countryside Commission.

As he says: "Each area requires different skills. In uplands, where I'm working, you need a quite different range of skills from, say, a coastal region."

Yuppies apart, there is much to be said for the older entrant and Dick Balharry, the NCC's chief warden in north-east Scotland, believes people of 30 and even 40 may well have the experience and self-reliance to stand them in good stead, in comparison with the younger entrant.

Merrist Wood has no upper age limit; so far the oldest entrant has been 38. Mature students have included a nurse, postman, occasional graduates and farmers disenchanted with food production and more interested in the leisure use of land.

"Some people are so keen they chuck up their job and do their pre-college year voluntarily," says Tony Rist, head of Merrist Wood's countryside department.

One training method that Andrew Webb may pursue is the correspondence module in countryside recreation management which Capel Manor's open learning unit has spent three years developing for people on the job – wardens, rangers, farm managers, estate staff and those in urban and city parks.

"They can sit in a hut and work through the course when it's raining," suggests Dr Steven Dowbiggin, the principal, who is pleased with the success of the package – 7,000 have been sent out to date.

In addition, Capel Manor, a college of further education, runs City and Guilds day courses in care, conservation and management for people already working, or hoping to work, in greenspace. There is also a year's full-time introduction to horticulture and conservation which attracts men and women embarking on a new career – returning mothers, a nurse, an ex-serviceman, a policewoman taking early retirement. One has successfully launched his own landscaping business, with fellow students on the payroll.

Others, who have taken a City and Guilds course while employed in London parks and recreation grounds, sometimes set up as gardeners or tree specialists.

Planning is another entrepreneurial area. According to the Royal Town Planning Institute, local authority staff reorganization is leading many with appropriate qualifications to take early retirement and start their own planning consultancy – there is a demand for their expertise in relation to country areas as well as towns. And today older people are entering the profession.

● *A degree course in countryside management – believed to be the first – starts in October at Newcastle University's faculty of agriculture, and will include scientific, economic and planning aspects. The first course is booked. Details from Martin Whitby. Farming and Wildlife Trust, The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire SG19 2DL. Merrist Wood Agriculture College, Worplesdon, Guildford, Surrey GU3 3PE. Capel Manor, Bullsmore Lane, Waltham Cross, Hertfordshire EN7 5HR.*

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

ADMINISTRATION & LEGAL DEPARTMENT

The County of Avon is a busy authority which offers across the board experience of law and administration in the attractive and growing South West.

SENIOR LEGAL OFFICER Ref No: ADL/00012/T2

(Litigation/Contracts)

Salary: PO (1-4) £12,804 - £13,812

Applications are invited for this senior post within the Department's Common Law Section which is responsible for most of the Litigation undertaken by the County Council and a substantial volume of Police Litigation undertaken on behalf of the Avon and Somerset Police Authority.

The post is open to Solicitors, Barristers and FILEX or those with equivalent qualifications or experience. You should have sound experience in both Contractual and Litigation matters gained preferably (but not necessarily) with a local or public authority.

The wide variety and heavy volume of work provides a challenging opportunity. Experience of computerised systems would be an advantage.

For an informal discussion, please contact either Mr P J Jennings, telephone Bristol 290777 extension 568, or Mr A Ritchie on extension 6422.

LEGAL OFFICER (COMPULSORY PURCHASE) Ref No: ADL/00130/T2

(Conveyancing and Property Services Section)

Salary: Career Grade Scale 2 - SO2

Appointment at Scale 4/5 £7,833 - £9,873

This is a new post and the responsibilities will relate primarily to the processing of Compulsory Purchase Orders. The work will involve receiving instructions from the Departments promoting the order, drafting orders and preparing all the necessary documentation. It is hoped to introduce a computerised system for processing orders and one of your first duties will be to assist in setting up such a system.

In addition to these duties you will be expected to undertake such other legal work as may be allocated from time to time. All legal officer posts in Avon are on a career grade.

Applications for this post are invited from those who have passed Part 1 of the Institute of Legal Executives examinations or hold similar qualification and have two years experience in legal work. Applications from others may be considered depending on experience and aptitude.

SOLICITOR (2 POSTS)

(Social Services Court Team)

The Social Services Court Team comprises four solicitors and two legal officers. The Team deals with all cases including children. There are two current vacancies.

1) PO1 (6-9) Ref No: ADL/00134/T2

Salary: £14,625 - £15,921

Applications are invited from those with at least 12 months experience in child-care law and practice. You will be expected to support the Section Head and give general supervision and assistance to two assistant solicitors and two legal officers within the Social Services Court Team. This post provides an excellent opportunity for a person interested in child-care law to gain management experience in a busy office.

2) PO1 (1-4) Ref No: ADL/00135/T2

Salary: £12,804 - £13,812

This post would suit a recently qualified solicitor seeking to gain experience in the challenging field of child-care law. Applications are invited from those with local authority or private practice backgrounds and training will be given to those who lack experience but can demonstrate potential.

Closing date for the above 4 posts - 11th April

PRINCIPAL SOLICITOR - Ref: ADL/00021/T2

(Re-advertisement)

Salary Grade PO (SR) £19,194 - £20,463

Applications are invited for this challenging third tier post from suitably qualified local government solicitors or barristers.

The post holder heads the Personal Services Section of the Legal Divison and is responsible for managing a team of Solicitors/Legal Executives dealing with all legal work arising from the Education, Social Services, public Protection and Community Leisure group of Committees. A legal support service is also given to the Avon Probation Committee and the Avon and Somerset Police Authority. In addition the successful applicant will have general management responsibility for the Social Services Court Team and the Common Law Section.

Candidates should therefore be able to demonstrate a breadth of local government experience covering Committee attendance and good management skills including an aptitude towards use and development of new technology.

Previous applicants need not re-apply.

SENIOR SOLICITOR Ref: ADL/110/T2 (Social Services)(Section Head)

Salary Grade: PO (9-12) £15,921 - £17,151

The Social Service Court Team handles all court proceedings involving children. The responsibilities of the Section Head are challenging and demanding. The successful applicant will need to lead a team of four solicitors and two legal officers. Applications are invited from experienced advocates with current knowledge of child care law and practice. Applicants should also demonstrate an aptitude for management of staff and for sustaining good working relationships with colleagues in the Social Services Department.

SOLICITOR Ref: ADL/117/T2

Salary Grade: PO (1-4) £12,804 - £13,812

Solicitors recently admitted will be considered

Applications are invited from solicitors or barristers. The duties of the post involve advising on a variety of highways and planning matters in this busy legal office. Initially this will cover Economic Development, Public Transport and general highways. Avon is a rapidly developing area and the work is both varied and demanding. In addition the applicant will be expected to advise on the implications for the County Council of all new legislation. Experience with another local authority would be an advantage although this is not essential. Some committee experience may be available and court work will be required although this does not form a large proportion of the duties. This particular post provides an excellent opportunity for those seeking to make a career in local authority law and administration.

Closing Date for the above 3 posts - 18th April

FOR ALL POSTS

Applications are particularly welcome from black people who are under-represented in this Section of the Department (Race Relations Act 1976, Section 38 (1) (b) applies).

Application by form only, available with further details from the Director of Personnel Services, PO Box 270, Avon House, The Haymarket, Bristol BS99 7HE, or telephone Bristol 298565 (Ansafone on this number after office hours)

Please quote appropriate reference number when asking for forms which must be returned by the specified closing date.

Avon as an Equal Opportunities Employer considers applicants on their suitability for the post, regardless of sex, race, disability or sexual orientation.

Avon
COUNTY COUNCIL

SEVERN-TRENT WATER

MAINTENANCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Salary indicator – £20,000 p.a.

Severn-Trent Water provides water services to 8 million people over an area of 8,000 square miles between the Humber Estuary and the Bristol Channel and our operational organisation reflects the geographical deployment of the assets we employ to meet customer needs.

We are looking for a chartered mechanical or electrical engineer with wide experience in the maintenance of treatment and distribution, sewage and sewage treatment plant and associated structures to join our Operational Support team at regional headquarters in Birmingham.

The emphasis in the job is towards the formulation and implementation of such plant which calls for a high level of planning ability. Sound interpersonal skills are therefore essential as is the ability to communicate clearly at all levels in the organisations.

If you feel that your qualifications and experience match these requirements will you please apply to:

**The Head of Manpower Services, Severn-Trent Water,
Abelson House, 2297 Coventry Road, Sheldon,
Birmingham B26 3PU.**

Telephone 021 722 4000 ext. 2151/2254 for an application form and further details.

Severn-Trent is an equal opportunity employer.

SEVERN TRENT WATER

RCM **The Royal College of Midwives**

15 Mansfield Street, London W1M 0BE
Tel. 01-580 6523/4/5 & 01-637 8823

SENIOR FULL-TIME OFFICIAL

The successful candidate will be the senior of two officers responsible for representing practising midwives in three English health authorities and, following a recent increase in staffing, will be a member of a team of ten officers negotiating at both local and national level. The position is based at the RCM's headquarters in London. She/he will have the necessary industrial relations skills and experience to represent midwives, both as individuals and collectively, at health authority and industrial tribunal levels. An NHS background would be an advantage.

The salary scale, currently £16,421 to £19,691 pa, is due to be revised from 1 April 1988.

The RCM represents more than 80 per cent of practising midwives in the NHS, with membership standing at its highest ever level: more than 30,000.

For informal visits/enquiries, contact Miss Sheila McIlroy, Director of Industrial Relations, on 01-580 6523 ext. 220. Further details and an application form may be obtained from the Administrative Officer at the above address or on 01-580 6523 ext 215.

CLosing date : 18 April 1988

Lancashire Constabulary

ASSISTANT CHIEF CONSTABLE

Applications for this post, which will become vacant on the 1st September, 1988, are invited from persons with wide police experience in the United Kingdom. The salary payable is £30,960.

The appointment will be subject to the Police Acts and Regulations for the time being in force and to a satisfactory medical examination. Housing accommodation will be provided or an allowance paid in lieu. Flat rate car allowance and uniform allowances will be paid.

Application forms are obtainable from the Chief Executive/Clerk (Ref 60/BWR), Lancashire County Council, County Hall, Preston PR1 8XJ. (Tel: Preston (0772) 263466) and should be returned by 22nd April, 1988.

BRIAN HILL
Clerk to the Police Committee
County Hall
PRESTON

Lancashire County Council is an equal opportunities employer welcoming applications from all sections of the community.

Deputy Secretary

Territorial, Auxiliary & Volunteer Reserve Association Yorkshire & Humberside

VACANCY for DEPUTY SECRETARY to the TERRITORIAL, AUXILIARY AND VOLUNTEER RESERVE ASSOCIATION for YORKSHIRE & HUMBERSIDE.

Applications are invited for the post of Deputy to the Secretary of the above Association. The successful applicant will be required to report for duty as soon as possible as the post is now vacant.

Applicants should preferably have Service and Staff experience at Grade 1 level and be under 56 years of age unless now employed by a TAVR Association. A good knowledge of works matters would be an advantage. Present salary, which is reviewed periodically, is £9,985 increasing by five annual increments to £12,878. There is a good pension scheme. The normal retiring ages is 65.

The successful applicant will be required to pass a medical examination. He will be expected to live within a reasonable distance of York. A car is provided.

Applications in writing, enclosing CV, should be forwarded to the Secretary, (DVS), Yorkshire & Humberside TAVR Association, 20 St. George's Place, York YO2 2DS. Applications must reach the above address by 9 May 1988.

BASINGSTOKE AND DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL

HEAD OF LEGAL SALES UP TO £22,000

THE JOB: arises from a restructuring of the Council's management and the creation of an Administration Department with four divisions. We are now looking for someone to head up the Legal Division and act as the Council's solicitor.

THE PERSON should be a solicitor of at least eight years' admission with a sound local government background and the ability to manage a busy legal office.

BENEFITS:
- a contract hire car or interest free car loan
- lump sum relocation allowance of £4000
- mortgage assistance scheme
- free private health insurance
- paid overtime in approved cases
- flexible working hours

Further details can be obtained by telephoning our 24 hour answering service on Basingstoke (0256) 479443, quoting reference T/LOO1 at the start of your call. **Applications in your own style should be submitted to the Personnel Manager, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 2AJ by Monday 18 April.**

BASINGSTOKE & DEANE borough council

BPMF

University of London
BRITISH POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL FEDERATION

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

Applications are invited from qualified Accountants for the post of Chief Accountant to the British Postgraduate Medical Federation.

The Federation has a major function in training the consultants of the future and in keeping doctors in hospitals and general practice up to date with the latest developments in medicine.

The BPMF comprises 8 Institutes engaged in medical research, education and the specialised treatment of patients.

University experience would be advantageous and applicants should be in the age range 30-45.

Salary by negotiation but not less than £20,000 per annum.

Please send full details to Miss Jane M Jones, Federation Secretary, BPMF, 33 Millman Street, London WC1N 3EJ.

PHONE NICKY NOW

ON (0905) 723747

for challenging post now available as Court Clerk to advise Worcestershire Justices in the administration of Justice.

Salary within range approx

£10 - 13k.

ALL BOX NO. REPLIES SHOULD BE SENT TO:

**BOX NO......
BOX NO. DEPT.,
P.O. BOX 484,
VIRGINIA STREET,
WAPPING,
LONDON,
E1 9DD.**

West Sussex Magistrates' Courts Committee

COURT CLERKS

at Chichester

Peripatetic Court Clerk (up to £13,998 pa) and Court Clerk (up to £11,808 pa)

Applications are invited from Barristers, Solicitors, and other persons suitably qualified for the above posts.

The successful applicants should possess a car and a valid driving licence. They will be expected to take Magistrates' Courts of all types as well as undertake some administrative duties. There are purpose-built court houses at Chichester, Midhurst and Petworth. The peripatetic Court Clerk will also be expected to take courts elsewhere, namely, at Arundel, Steyning, or Worthing. Essential car user allowance will be payable.

The administration (fully computerised) is from a modern court complex (opened in 1977) in Chichester, a cathedral city of great charm set amid one of the finest costal and downland recreational areas in the South. The court's area has a population of about 207,000.

JNC conditions of service will apply. Consideration will be given to meeting removal expenses in appropriate cases.

Applications in writing (manuscript please) should be sent to me together with a full Curriculum Vitae and the names and addresses of two refereees before Friday 8th April, 1988.

**JOHN HERNIMAN, Clerk to the Justices,
6 Market Avenue, CHICHESTER,
West Sussex, PO19 1YE
Tel: (0243) 784721**

Ogwr Borough Council

PLANNING DEPARTMENT SENIOR PLANNING ASSISTANT

(Forward Planning) (POST NO. P.46)

Salary Grade: S01 – £11,322 to £12,076 per annum

The successful candidate for the above post will be a Member of the Royal Town Planning Institute with experience in economic development activities. Enthusiasm and a positive attitude are essential.

This post offers an opportunity for someone who is interested in working in a busy Planning Department in an area of South Wales containing wide variety of planning problems and opportunities. The Borough has a population of 134,000 and covers an area of 100 square miles including an attractive coastline and is centred on the expanding town of Bridgend.

The Borough Planning Department initiates and co-ordinates the Council's economic development activities. It maintains the Authority's economic data base, deals with enquiries about industrial and commercial development, provides details of industrial land and property and financial incentives, and runs the industrial promotion strategy.

The postholder, who will work in the Department's Forward Planning Section, will be involved in all these areas, particularly as a first contact point. On occasions, duties may include work on Local Plans.

An Essential User Car Allowance is payable, and assisted car purchase or Leasing Schemes are available. A generous relocation package together with temporary housing is also available.

Application forms, which must be returned to Mrs D. Byrne, Borough Personnel Officer, by Friday 8th April 1988 are obtainable from her at the Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan CF3 1LX. Telephone (0656) 62141 ext 3205.

CANVASSING OF MEMBERS EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY WILL DISQUALIFY A CANDIDATE.

"OGWR BOROUGH COUNCIL IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER"

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

MANAGER

Community Charge Registration

Up to £18,000 plus Car Allowance

Croydon is an attractive area to live and work and has fast road and rail links with central London (13 minutes) and the south coast (45 minutes).

An exciting new post has been created to spearhead preparations for setting up and maintaining a Register of Community Charge payers. Croydon has 240,000 potential charge payers and we are looking for somebody who can *harness flair and imagination* to sophisticated business techniques.

We particularly wish to talk to managers, possibly in the public sector, who already have significant responsibilities for at least 20 staff *who deal directly with the public.*

The task is to establish and maintain a register of the adult population of Croydon who will be liable to pay the new Community Charge when domestic rates cease in 1990. The preparatory work of recruiting and training canvassing staff and setting up sytems etc. has to commence now. You will join a young and enthusiastic professional team who are already preparing for the changes.

Our generous relocation package covers all costs for moving to within commuting distance of Croydon.

For an informal discussion telephone Alan Titheridge, Assistant Director of Finance 01-686 4433, extension 2074.

Application forms and information pack from Jean Scott on 01-760 5560 (direct line). Forms should be returned to the Director of Finance, London Borough of Croydon, Municipal Offices, Fell Road, Croydon, Surrey, CR9 1BQ, by April 15, 1988.

CROYDON
An equal opportunity employer

Oxfordshire County Council

DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

£34,263 - £37,692

The County Council is seeking a successor to Harry Turner who will retire shortly.

There has been a recent reorganisation of the Department into five all-purpose divisions, with professional and administrative support centred in Oxford.

This restructuring will provide the means of ensuring that a responsive and accessible service is available to the public, and that resources are deployed effectively. The new Director will come to the Department at a crucial point in its development and will have ample opportunity to exercise positive management and leadership.

You will need to be suitably qualified and to have a good understanding and experience of the management of a large organisation, with a social work background being desirable but not essential.

Application forms and job details from the County Personnel Officer. Oxfordshire County Council, County Hall, New Road, Oxford OX1 1ND telephone (0865) 815465.
Closing date: 25th April 1988.

WORKPLACE NURSERY AVAILABLE IN OXFORD
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Animal Charity seeks

Fund-raising Officer

Based at their headquarters near Watford.

Responsibilities will include running local fund-raising events, talks, jumble collection and sales, administering stock and mail order. Salary £8,500 *with use of van.*

Write to the
General Secretary,
Animal Welfare Trust,
Tyler's Way,
Watford by-Pass,
Watford, Herts WD2 8HQ.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR SOMERSET

ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR

Applications are invited. The postholder will have particular responsibility for the Village Halls Advisory Service, the Arts and *training events for parish councils.* Experience and understanding of rural social problems is essential. *An appropriate degree would be an advantage.* Salary scale £8,133 to *£10,887.*

Details and application form from Community Council for Somerset, St. Margaret's, Hamilton Rd., Taunton. TA1 2EG. Telephone 0823 331222.

Closing Date 18th April.

UNIVERSITY OF WALES
PRIFYSGOL CYMRU

FINANCE OFFICER

Applications are invited from qualified accountants with appropriate experience, for the post of Finance Officer of the University of Wales, tenable from 1st August, 1988, or as soon as possible thereafter.

The Finance Officer will be a member of the University Registrar's senior management team, located at the University Registry, Cardiff.

The salary for the post will be within the range for Admin. Staff Grade 6, the minimum of which is *£23,380* per annum.

Application forms and further particulars are available from the University Registrar, University of Wales, University Registry, King Edward VII Avenue, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF1 3NS. (Closing date 30 April 1988).

NORTH BIRMINGHAM HEALTH AUTHORITY
Mental Health Services

SERVICE MANAGER

Grade Senior Nurse 6
(or equivalent)
Community

Community Psychiatric Services within North Birmingham Health Authority offers, for the right person, an excellent opportunity to develop their expertise in *planning* and *implementing* community-based services, to achieve the proposed reduction in hospital facilities, and also have the responsibility for Resource and Day *Centres, Generic CPNs and other* community-based services.

We need an innovative and imaginative person who possesses good management experience to meet the needs and demands of this exciting and challenging post. Applicants for this post must be committed to the concept of community-based care. Candidates from any discipline who possess the relevant skills and knowledge for this creative post may apply.

Interested? Informal enquiries welcomed, contact: Mr Ian McComiskie, Patient Services Manager, Highcroft Hospital, Highcroft Road, Erdington, Birmingham B23 6AX. Tel: 021-378 2211 ext 4206.

Application form and job description from: Miss Jenny Kedge, District Personnel Department, 15 Bedford Road, Sutton Coldfield B75 6BE. Tel: 021-378 2211 ext 3230 or 3443.

Closing date: April 14, 1988.

Tayside Regional Council

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY FIREMASTER (ASSISTANT FIREMASTER)

£24,396 x £588 (4) to £26,748
(inclusive) (under review)
(*Minimum salary for post: £27,261*)

Applications are invited from qualified and experienced senior officers for appointment to the post of Deputy Firemaster, which becomes vacant on 10th June 1988. Membership of the Institution of Fire Engineers and attendance at an appropriate Command Course will be considered an additional advantage.

National conditions of service will apply and the successful candidate will be required to undergo a medical examination.

The successful applicant will be required to provide his own car for use in connection with official duties.

The officer appointed will be required to devote his whole time to the post and no secondary employment may be undertaken *without approval of the Regional* Council. Removal, legal and associated expenses will be reimbursed in accordance with National Conditions of Service.

Forms of application may be obtained from the Chief Executive, Tayside Regional Council, Tayside House, Crichton Street, Dundee DD1 3RA, telephone Dundee (0382) 23281, extension 3813, and must be returned in envelopes *marked "Confidential - Appointment of* Deputy Firemaster" to arrive not later than 8th April 1988.

Any relationship to any member or senior officer of the Tayside Regional Council must be disclosed.

DUMFRIES and GALLOWAY HEALTH BOARD

CHIEF AREA NURSING OFFICER

(Scale SDA - 3)

Applications are invited from experienced Nurse Managers with high professional commitment who must possess and demonstrate sound management qualities and judgement to lead and develop all aspects of nursing for the Board.

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Queen's Bench Divisional Court

Law Report March 29 1988

Revised rates are payable before list is altered

Regina v Hackney London Borough Council, Ex parte S. G. Warburg Group Management Ltd

Before Lord Justice Bingham and Mr Justice Hutchison

[Judgment March 25]

On its true construction the General Rating Act 1967 allowed rating authorities to levy rates on the basis of new or revised rateable values proposed by the valuation officer, before any resulting alteration was made to the valuation list.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in refusing an application for a declaration that Hackney London Borough Council, the respondent rating authority, was not entitled to recover from S. G. Warburg Group Management Ltd, the applicants, occupied general rates in respect of the fourth to seventh floors of 1 Finsbury Avenue, London, EC2 based on the rateable value of £1,182,472 proposed by the valuation officer on April 30, 1987.

Section 6 of the 1967 Act provides: "(1) Subject to the provisions of this section, the rating authority may at any time make such amendments in a rate (being either the current or the last preceding rate) as appear to them necessary in order to make the rate conform with the enactments relating thereto . . .

"(2) Where the effect of the amendment would be . . . (a) to alter, otherwise than by way of correction of a clerical or arithmetic error, the value on which a hereditament is rated; . . . the rating authority shall not make any amendment of the rate unless . . . a proposal for a corresponding alteration to the valuation list has been made by the valuation officer; and if effect, or full effect, is ultimately not given to such a proposal, . . . (i) if too much has been paid, shall be repaid or allowed; or (ii) if too little has been paid, shall be paid and may be recovered as if it were arrears of the rate."

Mr Michael Fitzgerald, QC and Mr Christopher Lewsley for the applicants; Mr Nigel Macleod, QC and Mr John Male for the respondents.

LORD JUSTICE BINGHAM said that the question was where a rateable value for a given hereditament appeared in the valuation list and during the rating year the valuation officer proposed to increase the rateable value, such proposal being accepted by the rating authority but challenged by the ratepayer, was the sum of rates recoverable by the rating authority for that year to be assessed on the *rateable value appearing in the valuation list* or the proposed new rateable value?

It was common ground that the answer to the question was to be found in a correct interpretation and application of the General Rate Act 1967.

The facts were that in October 1986 the valuation officer reached an agreement with the applicants that the property should have attributed to it a gross value of £833,759 and a rateable value of £694,763. Those figures were subsequently entered in the valuation list with a note that the premises were "Affected by adjoining building works".

On April 30, 1987 the valuation officer proposed to delete the words "Affected by adjoining building works" and to increase the gross value to £1,419,000 and the rateable value to £1,182,472 on the ground that "the present assessment is incorrect and insufficient". There had been no material alteration to the property itself.

The respondents had demanded the rate payable on the new proposed rateable value; the applicants had paid the amount due on the rateable value which appeared in the valuation list. Magistrates' court proceedings had been adjourned pending the decision on the application.

His Lordship said that he had not found the question easy to resolve. He saw force in the argument that if section 6 of the Act had been intended to enable rating authorities to levy rates on the basis of proposed valuations it could very simply have said so.

It was, however, plain from section 6(2) that the Act intended ratepayers to pay first and argue later. The section also made it plain that rating authorities might amend the rate where a proposal for a "corresponding" alteration to the valuation list had been made by the valuation officer.

His Lordship concluded that the case fell within the general words of section 6(1) which enabled a rating authority to amend the rate if (as here) it appeared to it to be necessary in order to make the rate conform with (in particular) section 19(3) and the authority's power or duty to make a rate.

Section 67(6) was, his Lordship thought, directed to enforcement of section 2(4)(b), but that sub-section was, in his view, subject to the authority's general powers under section 6 to amend the rate in appropriate circumstances. For those reasons he refused the application.

Mr Justice Hutchison agreed.

Solicitors: Macfarlanes; Mr Siddiek Meer, Hackney.

Power to hear discrimination claim brought out of time

Foster v South Glamorgan Health Authority

Before Mr Justice Popplewell, Mr J. A. Powell and Mr E. A. Webb

[Judgment March 15]

An industrial tribunal were wrong to hold that as a matter of principle they were unable to consider a complaint of unlawful sexual discrimination brought out of time by a nurse required to retire on her sixtieth birthday and which was based on the change in the law bought about by the decision of the European Court of Justice in *Marshall v Southampton & South West Hampshire Area Health Authority (Teaching)* ([1986] ICR 335).

The appeal tribunal allowed an appeal by Mrs Bridget Foster from a decision of a Cardiff industrial tribunal in November 1987 that they had no jurisdiction to hear her claim of unlawful discrimination against the South Glamorgan Health Authority.

Mrs S. Ashtiany, solicitor, for the applicant. Mr John Bowers for the employers.

MR JUSTICE POPPLEWELL said that the complaint of discrimination was not presented until eight months from the act complained of. Section 76 of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 provided that proceedings had to be brought within three months of the discriminatory act. By section 76(5) a tribunal could consider a complaint which was out of time if in all the circumstances of the case it considered that it was just and equitable to do so.

The reason for the complaint being out of time was that as the law appeared to be at the date of her retirement in December 1985 the applicant had no valid claim. The law appeared to be as laid down in *Roberts v Cleveland Health Authority* ([1979] ICR 558) which upheld the exclusion of provisions in relation to retirement from the operation of the Act. But on February 26 1986, the European Court in *Marshall* ruled that someone in the applicant's position would have a valid claim.

It was well known that a decision of a higher court was declaratory of the law that had always pertained so that the European Court's decision was declaratory of the law as it pertained to the applicant's case. The industrial tribunal had to decide whether, according to justice and equity, they should hear the application out of time.

They found that since 1979 the law as expressed in *Roberts* had prevented people, including the applicant, from making claims and that the fact that *Marshall* had changed the law should not have put the applicant in a better position than the others.

The reason why it was said that those affected by a mistaken view of the law should not be able to bring a claim was the need for finality of litigation.

The question was whether that was a general principle or whether there was an area where an opportunity to re open a case was still open to a litigant. Should the principle be applied to someone whose application was presented three months plus one day after the discriminatory act, and should he be treated in the same way as a person whose claim had been resolved years previously? Was it principle or was it a question of where the line was to be drawn?

The industrial tribunal said it was a matter of principle and that because the line had been drawn against all the others affected by the mistaken view of the law, it was inequitable not to draw the line against the applicant as well.

The appeal tribunal considered that the industrial tribunal were wrong in saying that the applicant had to be treated in the same way as everyone else however far out of time their cases were. What was just and equitable under section 76(5) was a question of fact in each case. The industrial tribunal had debarred themselves from that inquiry. The appeal would be allowed and leave to appeal granted.

Solicitors: Cole & Cole, Kidlington; Morgan Bruce & Hardwickes, Cardiff.

Power to disqualify company directors

Regina v Georgiou

There was jurisdiction to make a disqualification order under section 2 of the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 when the carrying on of an insurance business through a limited company was performed unlawfully in any way and when it could properly be said to be in connection with the management of the company.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice O'Connor, Mr Justice McNeill and Mr Justice Ognall) so held on March 23 when dismissing the appeal of Christakis Georgiou (otherwise known as Michael Hammer) against his sentence of six months imprisonment (varied by the Court of Appeal on March 3 who suspended the remaining part of the sentence) and also rejecting the submission that the disqualification order for five years made on January 22 at Wood Green Crown Court (Mr Recorder G. L. Davies) for the offence of carrying on insurance business without authorization (contrary to sections 2 and 14 of the Insurance Companies Act 1982) was too long.

MR JUSTICE O'CONNOR said that the indictable offence was committed in connection with the management of a company and the court did have the jurisdiction to make the disqualification order.

Court of Appeal

Terms must be similar in equal value claim

Leverton v Clwyd County Council

Before Lord Justice May, Lord Justice Balcombe and Lord Justice Stocker

[Judgment March 17]

A woman could not succeed on a claim that her work was of equal value to that of men employed by the same employer at a different establishment unless the terms and conditions of the men's employment were broadly similar to those of her employment.

The Court of Appeal so held by a majority (Lord Justice May dissenting) in a reserved judgment, dismissing unanimously an appeal by the applicant employee, Mrs Marion Leverton, from the Employment Appeal Tribunal (Mr Justice French, Mr J. A. Powell and Mr G. H. Wright) (*The Times* June 16, 1986; [1987] 1 WLR 65) which had dismissed her appeal from an industrial tribunal's decision to dimiss her application under section 1(2)(*c*) of the Equal Pay Act 1970 (as amended by section 8 of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 and regulation 2 of the Equal Pay (Amendment) Regulations (SI 1983 No 1794)) for the inclusion of an equality clause in her contract of employment with Clwyd County Council.

Section 1 of the Equal Pay Act 1970 (as amended) provides: "(2) An equality clause is a provision which relates to terms (whether concerned with pay or not) of a contract under which a woman is employed . . . and has the effect that — . . . (*c*) where a woman is employed in work which . . . is, in terms of the demands made on her . . . of equal value to that of a man in the same employment — (i) if (apart from the equality clause) any term of the woman's contract is . . . less favourable to the woman than a term of a similar kind in the contract under which the man is employed, that term of the woman's contract shall be treated as so modified as not to be less favourable . . .

"(3) An equality clause shall not operate in relation to a variation between the woman's contract and the man's contract if the employer proves that the variation is genuinely due to a material factor which is not the difference of sex . . .

"(6) . . . men shall be treated as in the same employment with a woman if they are men employed by her employer . . . at the same establishment or at establishments in Great Britain which include that one and at which common terms and conditions of employment are observed either generally or for employees of the relevant classes."

Mr Anthony Lester, QC and Mr David Pannick for the applicant; Mr Giles Wingate-Saul, QC and Mr Alistair Webster for the council.

LORD JUSTICE MAY said that the applicant, a nursery nurse, employed in one of the council's schools, sought comparison with 11 male clerical officers employed by the council who like her were employed pursuant to the Scheme of Conditions of Service of the National Joint Council for Local Authorities' Administrative, Professional, Technical or Clerical Services (known as "the purple book").

Both the applicant and the comparators were paid in accordance with the salary scales in section 3 of the book: nursery nurses were in scale 1; clerical officers in scales 3 and 4. The applicant effectively worked 32 hours per week and only during school terms; the comparators worked 37 or 39 hours.

The 1970 Act, as amended, was a very difficult statute to construe and its drafting was by no means clear in a number of places. If the time came for fresh or amending legislation the opportunity should be taken to improve and clarify the Act. The statute was concerned with terms and conditions of work of employees and should be drafted with that clarity which would enable both sides to a contract of employment to know without difficulty what their rights were.

Before the industrial tribunal it had correctly been conceded that the applicant and the comparators worked at different establishments. In considering whether the comparators were "in the same employment" as the applicant for the purposes of section 1, the first difficulty which arose was caused by the inclusion of the phrase "which include that one".

It could be argued that that phrase meant that before an applicant could succeed on a claim under section 1(2)(*c*) one at least of the male comparators had to be employed at the same establishment as the applicant. If that argument were good the applicant's claim in the instant case would fail *in limine*.

The majority of the appeal tribunal had rejected that argument on the basis that "which include that one" could be read as meaning "not excluding that one", so that comparators could be drawn both from the applicant's establishment and from others but without any necessity for that to be so.

His Lordship could see no good reason why the simple words "which include that one" should be turned round and so construed; the meaning of the two phrases was different, and the majority conclusion of the appeal tribunal was a valiant attempt to give some clear meaning to those very difficult words. The the meaning of those words became apparent once one had correctly construed the words "common terms and conditions".

There was no warrant for construing "common" as "broadly common". The only legitimate constructions of "common" were either "the same" or "belonging equally to more than one, generally known, or in general use".

It could not mean "the same" since if it did the required identity of the terms and conditions of the applicant and those of the comparators would defeat the whole purpose of the legislation.

Thus his Lordship was driven to adopt the alternative construction, which enabled one to arrive at the purposive destination to which the draftsman was directing one: one was led to a concept of terms and conditions in a general sense, applicable across the board, or across the particular boards of the relevant classes of employee.

In other words the object of section 1(2)(*c*) and 1(6) was to ensure that a woman doing work of the same value in the same employment enjoyed equal terms and conditions. If the woman and the man were employed by the same or an associated employer at the same establishment they were, well understandably, to be treated as in the same employment, and no question of common terms and conditions was relevant.

If a male comparator worked at a different establishment, she was to be treated as in the same employment as him if her establishment and his were in the same concern and if at those establishments common terms and conditions were observed either generally or for employees of the relevant classes, that is, the class of employee of which the woman was a member and the class of which the man was a member.

Before the woman could have an equality claim there must, either throughout the employer's business, or at least in relation to the classes of employee to which each belonged, be uniformity of employment. A woman working in establsihment A, *ex hypothesi* doing work of the same value as the man, could not have an equality claim in respect of that man working at establishment B unless at least she and her fellow employees doing the same work at A, and the man and his fellow-employees at B, each were subject to common terms and conditions.

Otherwise either the woman or the man or both might be a "rogue" enjoying uncommon terms and conditions of employment, possibly because of the particular establishment at which they worked.

If one adopted that approach to the construction of section 1(6) the result was sensible and in accordance with the obvious intent of the statutory provisions. That enabled one to give full scope to the words "which include that one".

In the instant case both the applicant and her comparators were employed on "common terms and conditions" at whichever of the council's establishments they worked, namely, the terms and conditions in the purple book and agreed amendments to it. Therefore the applicant and her comparators were in the same employment as defined by section 1(6).

The mere fact that because the applicant normally worked fewer hours than the comparators and had longer holidays did not necessarily mean that she and they could not have common terms and conditions; if it did it would mean that they had to have the same terms and conditions before they could be said to be common, and that would defeat the whole purpose of the legislation.

Although the construction of section 1(6) was difficult it could not be said, once it was understood, that it was ambiguous, and therefore it was not necessary to go to European Community law to assist in the task of construction.

Nevertheless the conclusion to which his Lordship had come was consistent with *Defrenne v Sabena* (Case 43/75) ([1976] ICR 547) and the opinion of the Advocate General in *Commission v Denmark* ([1986] 1 CMLR 44).

The appeal tribunal had addressed an inquiry to the chairman of the industrial tribunal on the question whether the industrial tribunal had had evidence before it on which it could properly have found (as it had done) that the variation in pay between the applicant and the comparators was "genuinely due" to material factors (the hours and the holidays) and the chairman had written a letter in reply.

An appeal to the appeal *tribunal should be decided* on the industrial tribunal's reasons as originally drafted, and his Lordship deprecated any procedure whereby those might be supported or enlarged by any direct communication between the tribunals.

In his Lordship's judgment there had been sufficient evidence before the industrial tribunal of a causal link between the applicant's shorter hours and longer holidays and the difference in pay, which justified that difference under section 1(3); and accordingly the appeal tribunal had been wrong to hold that the industrial tribunal could not properly have found the section 1(3) defence established.

LORD JUSTICE BALCOMBE said that, approaching the construction of section 1(6) simply as a matter of the meaning of the words used without considering the impact of European law as an aid, the construction for which the council contended and which had been adopted by both tribunals, represented the natural meaning of the words used in their context.

That meaning was that, in order for a woman to be in the same employment as comparators working at other establishments, common terms and conditions of employment had to be observed both at the establishment at which the woman worked and at those at which the comparators worked either for all the employees at the establishments concerned or for the class of employees of which the woman was a member (in this case nursery nurses) and the class(es) of employees of which the comparators were members (in this case clerical officers).

The purpose of the provision was to find some man or men with whom the woman could be compared to she if she were employed on work of equal value. For the comparison to be valid it must, as nearly as possible be a comparison of like with like: the operation of an equality clause presupposed broadly similar contracts.

The provision assumed that if the woman and the comparators were employed at the same establishment that would involve a sufficient element of community to enable a proper comparison to be made. If they were employed at different establishments some further element of common identity was required to enable a proper comparison to be made; that element was to be found in the observance at the establishments concerned of "common terms and conditions of employment".

That clearly did not mean "identical" terms and conditions, for that would defeat the whole purpose of the legislation. The proper interpretation of section 1(6) was that the terms and conditions should be broadly similar: variations in pay or job description did not prevent there being common terms and conditions.

The section was not well drafted and either construction advanced in argument could throw up anomalies. However, the language of section 1(6) led more readily to that advanced by the council.

The applicant then sought to pray in aid European Community law in support of her construction. It was common ground that the court was required to construe English law so far as possible consistently with the relevant Community law. Having considered article 119 of the Treaty of Rome and the opinion of the Advocate General upon it in *Denmark*, his Lordship did not consider that either construction of section 1(6) was more consistent with Community law than the other.

Moreover, the rights conferred on the applicant under article 119 could not be directly enforced without reference to more explicit implementing provsions of a Community or national character, and so if her claim were barred by section 1(6) there were no other implementing provisions which would enable her to enforce her rights under the Treaty.

The Divisional Court in *R v Secretary of State for Social Services, Ex parte Clarke* ([1988] IRLR 22, 26) had not held that a section 1(3) defence could never be taken as a preliminary point, but that save in exceptional circumstances the determination of such a defence would require evidence.

In his Lordship's judgment the appeal tribunal had been right to reverse the industrial tribunal's decision that the section 1(3) defence had been established: the industrial tribunal was not entitled to draw inferences where there was no proper evidence from which they could be drawn.

Since there had been no proper evidence from which it could be inferred the the differences on hours of work and holidays were a genuine material factor, it followed that there was no proper evidence to enable the industrial tribunal to hold that the objective test of justification propounded in *Bilka-Kaufhaus GmbH v Weber von Hartz* ([1987] ICR 110) and *Rainey v Glasgow Health Board* ([1987] AC 224) had been satisfied.

The Court of Appeal in *Hayward v Cammell Laird Shipbuilders Ltd (No 2)* ([1988] QB 12) had not laid down any universal and invariable rule that it was proper to compare remuneration on an hourly basis, and the industrial tribunal had been entitled to reject such a comparison as unrealistic on the facts of this case.

LORD JUSTICE STOCKER said that the construction of section 1(6) adopted by the tribunals and Lord Justice Balcombe was correct, despite the fact that the literal interpretation of "common" in the sense of "identical" was impossible if any effect were to be given to the Act at all. The expression "broadly similar" enabled a proper comparison of like with like to be nade, and that was the purpose of section 1(6).

The grounds on which the industrial tribunal had found the section 1(3) defence proved were sufficiently establsihed from the evidence before it and its findings, and the appeal tribunal had therefore been wrong to over-rule it.

Solicitors: Miss Nicola V. Jones, Manchester; Mr Erli Davies, Mold.

Teacher must be told if suspension is for medical reasons

Whitley v Harrow London Borough Council

Before Mr Justice Pill

[Judgment March 16]

An education authority could not suspend a teacher on the ground that he had become medically unfit, under paragraph 29 of Appendix III of the Conditions of Service for Schoolteachers in England and Wales, without informing him that he had been so suspended.

Mr Justice Pill so held in the *Queen's Bench Division* in finding for the plaintiff, Henry Victor John Whitley, against the London Borough of Harrow and holding that he was entitled to arrears of salary from September 1, 1984.

Mr Andrew Hillier for Mr Whitley; Mr Peter Martin for the council.

MR JUSTICE PILL said that the plaintiff had been asked to stay away from school in July 1983 following complaints. Although he did not work he remained on full pay until August 1984, when he was informed that he was regarded as being on sick leave and put on half pay. The plaintiff's claim was for arrears of salary from that date.

The defendants claimed that since August 1984 the plaintiff had been suspended without pay under paragraph 29 of the conditions of service.

His Lordship said that suspension under paragraph 29 was a formal act with important repercussions and the person involved had to be told. The paragraph contemplated that procedures would be followed which meant that something comprehensible had to occur and the result be made known to the person suspended.

In this case there had been no reference to paragraph 29, the plaintiff had been informed first that he was on leave of absence and then that he was on sick leave. There had therefore been no valid exercise of the power under paragraph 29.

The defendants had failed to make clear the powers under which they were acting. They had obscurred the matter. They could not now claim to have selected the more favourable procedure regarding pay.

His Lordship added that he would have found that the plaintiff was entitled to his full salary even if he had been suspended under paragraph 29. Paragraph 29 had to be read in accordance with the other paragraphs, and under teachers' contracts salary was normally payable during suspension.

Although the procedure for suspending on medical grounds was different from the procedure for suspending on other grounds, it did not follow that a difference in entitlement to pay could be inferred from those procedural differences.

Solicitors: H. Pierce; Mr Keith S. Gowling, Harrow.

Correction

In *Greater Nottingham Co-Operative Society Ltd v Cementation Piling and Foundations Ltd and Others* (*The Times* March 28) Mr Walter Aylen, QC, Mr Michael Stephen and Mr Jonathan Bellamy, instructed by Davies, Arnold & Cooper, appeared for Cementation; Mr John Dyson, QC and Miss Alison Foster, instructed by Hunt Dickins & Willatt, Nottingham, appeared for the society.

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This represents an excellent opportunity to develop your legal skills in a fast moving business environment. We are looking for a Solicitor with a good academic background and around two to three years post qualification experience, whether in private practice or business. Direct experience of the securities industry is not essential although the ideal candidate should have broadly based commercial law experience.

The remuneration package is highly competitive and will reflect the experience and potential of the successful applicant.

Please write with a copy of your CV to: N. J. Holt, Group Legal Adviser, Smith New Court PLC, Chetwynd House, 24 St Swithin's Lane, London EC4N 5AT.

SMITH NEW COURT
PLC

AVIATION LAWYER

We are one of an international Group of Companies, with headquarters at London – Heathrow Airport, specialising in aviation claims, investigation and adjustment for insurers. We have a requirement for a qualified lawyer (solicitor or barrister), to be based at Heathrow to augment and assist our existing legal staff.

The successful candidate will
- have post-qualification litigation and/or commercial experience
- have an active interest in aviation
- be expected to undertake occasional travel both overseas and in the U.K.
- demonstrate an ability to communicate successfully with engineering and insurance professionals

Applications with a full C.V. and an indication of salary requirement should be sent to: Rodney M. Butcher, Managing Director, Airclaims Insurance Services Ltd., Cardinal Point, Newall Road, Heathrow Airport (London), Hounslow TW6 2AS.

TROWERS & HAMLINS

PROBATE ASSISTANT

A vacancy has arisen for a senior probate assistant (who will be either a solicitor or a legal executive of some years' experience) to report directly to our principal probate partner. The majority of the work is intellectually rewarding and involves large and interesting estates. A propensity for hard work is essential.

We offer an attractive salary (reviewed twice in each year) and other benefits.

Please reply with curriculum vitae to:
Nicholas Hills
TROWERS & HAMLINS
6 New Square, London WC2A 3RP

THAMES TELEVISION

LEGAL ADVISER

We require a Barrister or Solicitor, based at our Euston Studios, to act as a Legal Adviser (Factual Programmes), an important function reporting to the Director of Programmes.

The major responsibility is the checking and clearing of programme content with particular emphasis on defamation, contempt, and reporting restrictions. Another prime requirement of the appointment is to ensure that programme makers comply with the IBA's guidelines and Thames' own Company policy.

This post involves close liaison with journalists and programme makers. Experience in journalism or the media will be a distinct advantage.

If you would like to be considered for this position, please contact the *Personnel Department on*: 01-387 9494, *for an application form to be returned by no later than the closing date*, Friday 8 April 1988.

Thames is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes all applications regardless of sex, ethnic origin and marital status.

YOUR NEXT MOVE COULD BE YOUR LAST

LEWIS SILKIN ...

... is a 19 partner practice growing fast, so fast that both our Westminster and our Peckham offices need determined young lawyers looking for a fresh start with a future.

In Westminster the emphasis is on providing a complete service for multinational and national business clients. They may be in communication, property development, advertising, travel or secured lending.

Here there are opportunities in company/commercial for a 2-4 year admitted assistant and in property for two solicitors admitted 0-1 year and one with 2-4 years post admission experience.

In Peckham we are one of the biggest Inner London practices south of the river. Surrounded by a bustling community we meet the range of individual and commercial legal needs you would expect - and more.

Here we need a litigator admitted up to two years and for the gamut of civil work, assisted and non assisted.

Call Andrew Thomas on 639 8801 or write with c.v. to 1 Butler Place, Buckingham Gate, London SW1H 0PT

☎ 01-481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

☎ 01-481 4481

NICHOLSON GRAHAM & JONES

Construction Lawyer £25,000-£45,000.

The rapid growth of the Construction Law Unit within this successful fifteen partner City based practice has created the need for an additional Construction Lawyer, with relevant experience gained either in a London practice or Industry. Whilst younger applicants with good commercial awareness should not be deterred from applying, preference will be given to applicants who have a proven track record and a dynamic approach to legal problems.

Applicants should be able to advise on all kinds of construction-*related activities including* design and build *agreements, management* contracts, procurement and engineering contracts, and professional appointments. Experience of project finance, the negotiation of construction related disputes and the conduct of litigation and arbitration proceedings would be an added advantage.

An outstanding remuneration package includes twice yearly salary reviews, annual bonus, pension contribution, permanent health and life assurance, and where appropriate, relocation expenses.

The practice is committed to developing the construction law unit and will be quick to recognise and reward partnership potential. This is an ideal opportunity for an individual keen to progress within a challenging and fulfilling environment.

For further details of the post please write in the strictest confidence to **Judith Farmer** at BADENOCH & CLARK, 6th Floor, 29-31 Oxford Street, London W1R 1RE, or telephone her on **01-583 0073** during business hours or **01-809 4974** evenings and weekends.

BADENOCH & CLARK
LONDON • BIRMINGHAM • BRIGHTON • MILTON KEYNES • READING
RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS

LOOKING FOR EARLY PARTNERSHIP?

EXPERIENCED PROPERTY LAWYER
£35k-£45k

SENIOR LITIGATOR
£35k-£45k

Our client is an established and progressive West-End based practice, offering a wide range of commercial services to an impressive list of private and publicly quoted companies.

As a result of its commitment to expansion, it currently has requirements for a senior litigator and an experienced property lawyer, each of whom must have the ability and commercial awareness to take on a demanding and varied caseload.

Candidates for the litigation position must be able to demonstrate substantial recent experience of Landlord and Tenant and property related work, and general civil commercial litigation matters. It is anticipated that the person appointed will be 5-8 years qualified and of sufficient calibre to progress to salaried partnership level within a short space of time.

Applicants for the property position should be at least 3 years qualified with knowledge of substantial and complex commercial conveyancing transactions having an emphasis on development work. The successful candidate must demonstrate the flair and ability to work directly with prestigious clients. There are excellent prospects for early progression to partnership for high fliers and those with a demonstrated track record.

For further details of these positions, please write in the strictest confidence to **Judith Farmer** of Badenoch and Clark, 6th Floor, 29-31 Oxford Street, London W1R 1RE, or telephone her on 01-583 0073 during office hours, 01-809 4974 evenings and weekends.

BADENOCH & CLARK
LONDON • BIRMINGHAM • BRIGHTON • MILTON KEYNES • READING
RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS

COMMERCIAL LAWYER

Kleinwort Benson

Kleinwort Benson, the international merchant bank, seeks a qualified Solicitor/Barrister to assist the Group Legal Adviser with a demanding workload in a thriving in-house department.

Candidates should be aged late 20's, with up to 3 years banking/financial experience, acquired in a similar financial institution or a City practice, and must demonstrate the versatility and commercial acumen necessary to undertake a broad spectrum of legal duties. These will include drafting financial agreements, negotiating contracts, and advising on banking/ securities law.

An attractive remuneration package reflects the importance attached to this key position.

For further details please contact **Tim Knight** on 01-583 0073 (or 01-622 6905 outside office hours), or write to him at 16-18 New Bridge Street, Blackfriars, London EC4V 6AU.

BADENOCH & CLARK
LONDON • BIRMINGHAM • BRIGHTON • MILTON KEYNES • READING
RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS

COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

WEST END OFFICE

We are pleased to announce the *opening of our new* West End office and welcome applications from Solicitors or Barristers wishing to move into commerce and industry from private practice or those who are currently in-house and seek a fresh challenge.

We have a variety of opportunities for commercially-minded lawyers in all sectors, including manufacturing, retail, property, advertising and energy based organisations.

For an initial discussion in the strictest confidence, please contact Robert Drury on 01-583 0073.(24 hours).

6th Floor, 29-31 Oxford Street,
London W1R 1RE.

CITY OFFICE

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a bright young lawyer to join an established, reputable insurance company. Joining a small busy department, the successful applicant, a barrister or solicitor aged up to 28, will have fluency in a European language and will deal with a variety of litigious matters inlcuding advising prestigious clients on a range of legal problems. A good salary will be offered, commensurate with age and experience.

For details of these and other vacancies please contact **Lisa Wilson** or **Tim Knight** on 01-583 0073.(24 hours).

16-18 New Bridge Street,
London EC4V 6AU.

BADENOCH & CLARK
LONDON • BIRMINGHAM • BRIGHTON • MILTON KEYNES • READING
RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS

DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION

Substantial Legal Practice

Negotiable salary **Northamptonshire**

Toller Hales and Collcutt is a successful and growing Legal Partnership operating in Northamptonshire and Peterborough. It prides itself on a progressive approach in providing a full range of client services to this rapidly developing region, utilising the existing network of substantial local offices.

As part of the development plan there now exists a requirement for a Director of Administration. This new and challenging position encompasses responsibility for a number of key areas crucial to the organisation's future growth. These include: staff recruitment, training and administration; office management and planning; marketing and new business development.

Candidates are likely to be aged 30 to 45, with experience of managing a modern administrative function in a large professional service environment. Experience of a legal practice would be advantageous, as would a good knowledge of modern office technology and exposure to the marketing of professional services.

The starting salary depends on age and experience, and relocation costs will be paid, where necessary, to this attractive Midlands location.

To apply please write or telephone for an application form, or send a detailed CV, quoting reference number PBM/2158/TR to Tim Roffe, PA Personnel Services, 6 Highfield Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 3DJ. Telephone 021-454 5791.

TH&C Toller Hales & Collcutt

Lawyers

c£25K
+ car
+ benefits

City based

The Corporation of Lloyd's is responsible for the administration and regulation of the Lloyd's insurance market. The Solicitors Department is *involved in a wide range of activities giving legal* advice to the Corporation on general and commercial matters as well as advising on the regulation of underwriting members, Lloyd's underwriting agents and brokers. We are also responsible for drafting subordinate legislation and conducting investigatory, disciplinary and court proceedings on behalf of the Corporation.

We are presently seeking two people, both of whom should have qualified either as a Barrister or Solicitor.

Two Commercial Lawyers

(Qualified in excess of 2 years). To handle a wide range of commercial work together with some legislative drafting.

Candidates must have a good academic record and commercial awareness. We are offering salaries of up to £25,000 (according to age and experience) plus car. Benefits include mortgage assistance, non-contributory pension, private and permanent health insurance, season ticket loan and subsidised luncheons.

Please send written applications with full C.V. (quoting reference PD:394) to Christopher Hooper, Personnel Department, Lloyd's, London House, 6 London Street, London EC3 7AB.

LLOYD'S
LLOYD'S OF LONDON

TEXACO

Commercial Lawyer

The Texaco UK Group of Companies is part of a multinational organisation headed by Texaco Inc. They are in their own right a fully integrated group involved in every aspect of the oil industry.

An opportunity for an experienced commercial lawyer has arisen within the head office Legal Department based in Knightsbridge. Working as an integral member of this small team, you will be called upon to take an active and flexible role in the continued development of the legal service provided to all levels within the Company. There will be a high volume of work from all areas of the business including exploration and production, refining and marketing which will be varied and interesting. Specific responsibilities will include advising on and drafting a variety of commercial agreements, joint venture work and employment law matters.

Applications are invited from lawyers who have preferably gained experience in a commercial environment and have the inclination to deal with a wide variety of matters. They should also possess the business skills to meet the challenge of this demanding role. Previous experience within the oil industry although advantageous is not essential.

An attractive benefits package including a highly competitive salary and company car are offered with this position. Texaco is an equal opportunities employer.

For further information please contact Gary James at Michael Page Partnership,
39-41 Parker Street,
London, WC2B 5LH.
Telephone: 01-831 2000

MP
Michael Page Partnership
International Recruitment Consultants
London Bristol Windsor St Albans Leatherhead Birmingham Nottingham
Manchester Leeds Glasgow & Worldwide

Management Opportunity for a Commercially Minded LEGAL ADMINISTRATOR

Quick Europe Limited has established its European headquarters in the City of London, to provide on-line information on the Japanese and international financial markets.

In view of our considerable growth and rapid expansion plans, we have an immediate vacancy for a self-motivated administrator.

The post requires extensive experience of commercial contracts including Lease/ Maintenance contracts on a European basis, sales and international user agreements. Ideally, you should also have some experience of Estate Management and Employment legislation.

The right candidate (male or female) will ideally be aged between 28 to 35 years plus, have a relevant legal qualification and live within easy travelling distance of Liverpool Street.

In return, you can expect an excellent working environment, complimented by an attractive salary and comprehensive benefits package.

For immediate consideration please send your C.V., stating current salary to:

Miss V. Roe
Personnel Officer
Quick Europe Limited
35 New Bridge Street
London EC4V 6BJ

Please mark the envelope 'Private & Confidential'

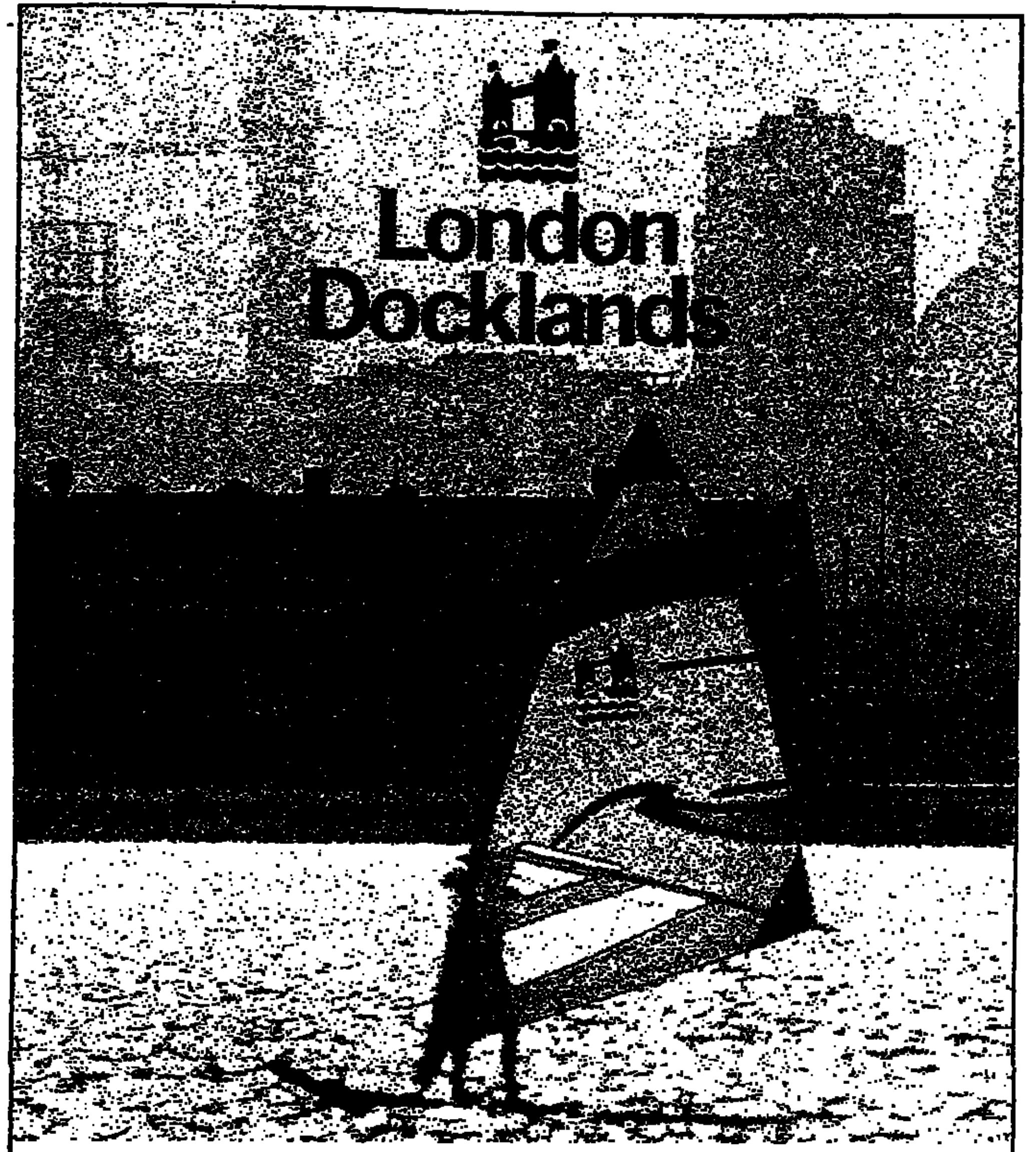
CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION IS 14th April 1988

هكذا من الاصل

☎ 01-481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

☎ 01-481 4481



Corporation Solicitor

Circa £25,000 + Car Scheme

London Docklands Development Corporation is responsible for securing the permanent regeneration of London's Docklands and is the most significant and far reaching development project in Europe.

The Corporation Solicitor is responsible for managing the small in-house Legal Team which, with the support of external firms, provides legal advice to the Board, Senior Management and Staff on a wide range of legal issues with particular reference to planning and property matters. The team supports the Corporation in connection with its statutory functions and is involved with the legal formalities associated with such issues as acquisitions, disposals, compulsory purchase, litigation, public enquiries and promotion of companies and charities.

This is a senior appointment which requires good management skills in addition to good all round legal knowledge and practical understanding of property and planning law.

Candidates seeking the opportunity for close involvement in this development process as part of a management team should offer relevant experience together with the ability to cope with a demanding schedule.

Candidates should write to me for an application form: **David Lowman, Head of Personnel and Administration, London Docklands Development Corporation, Great Eastern Enterprise, Millharbour, London E14 9TJ.** Applications will be reviewed on **Monday, 25th April, 1988.**

An Equal Opportunities Employer.

SENIOR LEGAL ADVISER

£25,000 · Company Car
London

NAAFI, the civilian trading organisation of HM Forces, has a turnover exceeding £375m a year, operates throughout 12 countries and employs over 10,000 people. Its activities cover a broad spectrum of retail trading as well as the provision of credit finance and insurance facilities which produce a wide range of interesting legal work in such areas as contract, consumer, labour and property law.

We are currently looking for a Lawyer to advise on such matters and to become involved in the day-to-day running of the legal department.

The successful applicant is likely to be a Solicitor or Barrister with some years' post qualification experience and an interest in working and developing within commercial environment.

Please write with full cv to Nigel Towse, Personnel Recruitment, Imperial Court, 225 Kennington Lane, London SE11 5QX.

Naafi
Serving the Services

LSA

LAURENCE
SIMONS
ASSOCIATES

LSA

QUALITY COMMERCIAL WORK IN THE COUNTRY?

My client is a 16 partner firm of central London solicitors with an office 45 minutes from London in a booming Hampshire town near the M.4 corridor. From opening the office less than three years ago, they have generated such a volume of good commercial work that they are now able to offer outstanding salaries and prospects to three individuals in the following fields:-

Company/commercial
Commercial property
Tax

Candidates should be solicitors or, in the case of the tax position, accountants with between one and five years relevant experience. Newly qualified applicants or those qualifying this year with good experience in articles will be considered.

Please telephone me, Laurence Simons on 01 242 6644 or 01 485 1345 (evenings/weekends), or write to LAURENCE SIMONS ASSOCIATES, 33 John's Mews, London, WC1N 2NS.

All applications will be treated in strict confidence.

LAWFORD & CO PROPERTY

Considerable client expansion dictates that we engage an ambitious and personable recently qualified Property Lawyer.

Positive career for the right individual.

Please telephone or write with C.V. to

Personnel Manager,
Lawford & Co.,
15 Devereux Court, The Strand,
London, WC2R 3JJ.
Tel: 01 353 5099.

Assistant Company Secretary

Up to £25,000 + car

Erskine House Group PLC is an acquisitive public company with subsidiaries throughout the UK and USA. We require a recently qualified solicitor, chartered accountant or chartered secretary with a first class academic record to strengthen our small head office team in Sevenoaks, Kent.

The position, which involves some UK travel and covers a wide range of duties, will be attractive to a self-starter looking to gain experience in a fast moving environment.

Please forward your C.V. to:

Mr I S M Bryant, Company Secretary, Erskine House Group PLC, Erskine House, Oak Hill Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1NW

Commercial Property Development

£ Substantial

REUTER SIMKIN
RECRUITMENT

LEGAL CO-ORDINATOR

Our client is involved in Europe's largest commercial property development. They seek an experienced lawyer to be the legal co-ordinator of the project.

The successful applicant will be based in Central London and will be responsible for supervising and co-ordinating all aspects of Legal work arising from the project and for providing continuity throughout the development. He/she will liaise with all external legal advisers.

Applications are sought from solicitors with experience of complex funding and development work. They will probably be in partnership now or may be due for promotion in the near future. A very substantial salary will be offered which will reflect the importance our client attaches to this unique appointment. On completion of the project, equity partnership with a leading City firm of solicitors will be available.

To discuss this excellent opportunity further call Piers Williams or Clare Tattersall on 01-405 6852 or write to us at Reuter Simkin Limited, 26/28 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4HE.

Company Secretary

Covent Garden **£ Negotiable**

The Board of Addison Consultancy Group plc has announced its intention to demerge its recruitment activities, (subject to shareholder approval), thereby forming **Michael Page Group plc.**

This has created the requirement for a Company Secretary who, reporting directly to the Board, will provide a full company secretarial service to Michael Page Group plc. Specific responsibilities will include the maintenance of statutory books, liaison with the registrar, management of share option schemes, the control of properties, and business/corporate insurances.

The position would be ideally suited to a part or fully qualified ACIS who has gained experience of the above in a quoted company and is seeking a fresh challenge in a rapidly expanding, international group. In addition to the technical requirements, applicants must also be able to demonstrate the skills of effective communication at senior management level and the ability to provide advice in a practical and business-like manner.

An attractive salary and benefits package is offered with this position.

For further details please contact **Gary James** on **01-831 2000** or write to him at **Michael Page Partnership, 39-41 Parker Street, London, WC2B 5LH.**

MP
Michael Page Partnership
International Recruitment Consultants
London Bristol Windsor St Albans Leatherhead Birmingham Nottingham
Manchester Leeds Glasgow & Worldwide

Criminal Lawyer

£18,900 – £22,790 Croydon

The Solicitor to The Post Office wishes to recruit a Solicitor for the Prosecution Division of his Office following a retirement. The Office is situated in Croydon.

The Division is responsible for conducting prosecutions for criminal offences committed against the Post Office including offences involving Girobank and the Department of National Savings; and also gives advice and assistance to the National Television Licence Records Office.

Solicitors conduct their own cases in Magistrates Courts in Southern England, instruct Solicitor Agents in the rest of England and Wales and are responsible for instructing Counsel in the Crown Court.

Applicants ideally should have one to two years' experience in criminal law either prosecuting or defending.

Starting salary will be in the range quoted which includes an Outer London Allowance of £790. There are excellent prospects for promotion to the next grade.

Additional benefits include contributory Superannuation Scheme, five weeks' Annual Leave and relocation assistance will be available where appropriate.

Application forms can be obtained from Martin Gibson, Room 536, Post Office Headquarters, 33 Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 1PX. Telephone 01-245 7083. Closing date for applications: 15th April 1988.

The Post Office is an equal opportunities employer.

The Post Office

Fox & Kent
Solicitors

We are a young and vigorous firm practising from attractive offices in the centre of Chichester. We now wish to recruit a

NON-CONTENTIOUS SOLICITOR

to handle a large and varied caseload. An attractive starting salary is offered together with a car and other benefits, and there is a real prospect of an early partnership.

For more details contact John Fox or Michael Kent on Chichester (0243) 778844

COMMERCIAL CONVEYANCER

West End Solicitors offer a challenging appointment to a fully experienced person to deal with a volume of substantial work. Salary envisaged £50,000. per annum.

Reply to Box No. F09

ARTICLED CLERK

Scale 4 - P01 £8625 p.a. - £14,604 p.a.
(Starting salary dependant on qualifications and experience).

Applications are invited from graduates who have passed (or recently sat) the Law Society Final examinations (part 2). The successful candidate will have the opportunity to make a practical and meaningful contribution in a busy legal department and will receive professional stimulation and guidance.

Full training will be given in all aspects of a London local government practice.

You may be entitled to relocation expenses which will include 100% legal fees involved for housing sale and purchase, 100% removal expenses, temporary lodging allowing plus a settling allowance of £923 in respect of incidental expenses incurred.

Flexitime is worked.

HILLINGDON
THE WEST LONDON BOROUGH

Application forms quoting reference number LA/14/100X are available from the Personnel Division, Civic Centre, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 1UW. Telephone Uxbridge 50589 (24 hour answering service available). Closing date: 15th April 1988.

Hillingdon as an equal opportunities employer, welcomes applications from candidates irrespective of race, sex, marital status, age, sexual orientation and disability.

WELWYN GARDEN CITY

SOLICITOR

required for 4 office firm.

Emphasis on litigation but some conveyancing experience would be an asset. Recently qualified or more experienced applicants considered. Salary according to age and experience.

Telephone Mr. A. Beasley on 0707 334171.

Nottinghamshire Magistrates Courts Committee

Mansfield Magistrates Court

Court Clerk/Senior Court Clerk

CC/PAD 8-12/14-18

We are looking for a solicitor or barrister. The postholder will be expected to take all types of court although training will be available if experience is lacking in any particular area. In addition there will be full involvement in the administration of the court and some opportunities to assist with the training of magistrates. The postholder may be expected to clerk courts at Newark, Worksop and Retford and thus it would be desirable to have a full driving licence. Mansfield is a busy market town in a Division with a population approaching 200,000. Commencing salary will depend on experience but an applicant with 3 years experience in all courts could expect to be appointed within points 14-18. Articles of Clerkship may be available to the right applicant.

If you are interested, further information may be obtained from the Deputy Clerk, Mr. D. J. Folland on Mansfield 24557.

Applications (marked "confidential") together with the names and addresses of two referees should be submitted to M. J. Friel, Clerk to the Justices, The Court House, 30 Potter Street, Worksop, Notts S80 2AJ. Closing date 11 April. Please quote ref: 123.

ASSHETONS

99 Aldwych
London
WC2B 4JF

Require:

(1) A 2 to 4 year **qualified Solicitor** Litigation Department. The right person will be able to conduct his/her own cases with minimal supervision. The work will involve a wide variety of litigation with a strong commercial basis.

CV to Mr A G Thornhill

(2) **A newly qualified Solicitor** to assist two Company Commercial Partners with a wide range of corporate matters including some commercial conveyancing.

CV to Mr G S Smith

SOLICITORS

HORSHAM WEST SUSSEX

We require the following staff to complement our present team:-

1. A Solicitor willing to undertake advocacy in connection with criminal and matrimonial law.
2. A Legal Executive experienced in General Litigation and Matrimonial matters.

Applicants should have a sound knowledge of criminal law and be familiar with both County Court and Magistrates Court procedures.

3. Articles clerks to commence articles in 1988/89. In return for your talents and enthusiasm we will offer you a happy working environment and a very competitive salary.

Are you interested?
If so, send details of
your career to date to:-
Stuart Faires,
Practice Manager,
Coole & Haddock with Cotchings,
14 Carfax,
HORSHAM,
West Sussex RH12 1DZ.

CRAWLEY MAGISTRATES COURT

Court clerk CC/PAD 3-7

£10,242 - £11,808

Plus outer fringe allowance of £225 pa

Barristers/Solicitors and persons qualified under the 1979 rules are invited to apply for the above post.

Excellent prospects are offered with a career structure. Crawley division includes Gatwick Airport which provides a wide variety of court work. Court duties also involve the adjacent Horsham Division (rural and urban).

There is opportunity to officiate regularly in all courts and have administrative responsibility with contact with advanced computer system.

The appointment is superannuable and subject to J.N.C. conditions, as locally supplemented. Generous allowances are provided for removal, resettlement and lodging in appropriate instances.

Applications in writing, with full CV, providing names/addresses of two referees, should be submitted immediately in envelopes marked "Confidential - Court Clerk".

David Redston, Solicitor, Clerk to the Justices, Magistrates Court, Woodfield Road, Crawley, West Sussex.

Head of Legal

NORTH OF ENGLAND

Our clients are one of the largest construction and engineering groups in the UK, with subsidiaries in the USA and Australia. They have a remarkably diverse range of operations – from motorways to offshore oil, and from housebuilding in England to electrical power in Africa. Turnover is about £800 million a year, employing over 16,000 people worldwide.

They now wish to recruit a Head of Legal Department, to be based in the North West. Candidates should be solicitors or barristers, and have recent exposure to construction and engineering. Aged between 35 and 55 years, candidates should be good communicators and be able to work with all levels of management. You will be required to give first line advice to the Main Board on legal and commercial matters and to organize legal services to support the work of Group subsidiaries. Work will include the full range of corporate and commercial activity to be expected in a Group of this scale. Some overseas travel will be involved.

The position reports to a Main Board Director. An excellent salary will be offered, to reflect the seniority of this position, plus bonus, car, and usual large company benefits.

For further detals please telephone Sonya Rayner, or write to her with a copy of your c.v.

Chambers
AND PARTNERS
Recruitment Consultants
74 Long Lane, London EC1A 9ET
Telex: 8951182 (01) 606 9371 Fax (01) 600 1793

Senior Positions

PRIVATE PRACTICE

Co/Commercial Partner
City *Contact Karen Gill*
Medium-sized firm, growing rapidly, seeks top level solicitor to head up co/commercial dept. Impressive clientele. £60,000 plus bonus etc.

Litigation Partner Designate
North East *Contact Alison Diamond*
Experienced litigator to join six-partner firm with a view to succeeding one of the senior partners running own office. £15-25,000 pa.

Senior Assistant
Birmingham *Contact Nick Galvin*
Early partnership for co/commercial solicitor with 3 yrs' expce. Small dynamic firm with mainly commercial clientele. to £25,000 pa.

Co/Commercial Partner Designate
W. Yorkshire *Contact Alison Diamond*
Solicitor with over 3 years' co/commercial experience to run expanding department of successful medium-sized firm. £15-30,000 pa.

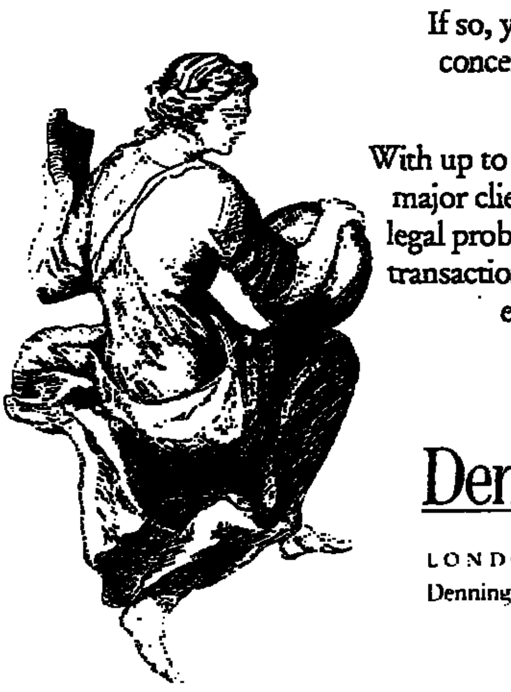
Head of Commercial Practice
Oxfordshire *Contact Fiona Young*
Partnership within 1-2 years for solicitor to run commercial side of practice – co/commercial work and comm conveyancing. c £30,000 pa.

Commercial Conveyancing
London (Holborn) *Dominique Graham*
Solicitor to join conveyancing team at partnership level, to handle commercial property – investment & development work. c £60,000pa

Chambers
AND PARTNERS
Recruitment Consultants
74 Long Lane, London, EC1A 9ET
Telex: 68951182 (01) 606 9371 Fax (01) 600 1793

Denton Hall Burgin & Warrens

JOIN OUR WORLD
COMMERCIAL LITIGATION LAWYER



Are you experienced in handling disputes arising from international trade transactions?

If so, you could be the young Solicitor we are looking for to join our team concentrating on this area of law which includes shipping, insurance and international labour law problems.

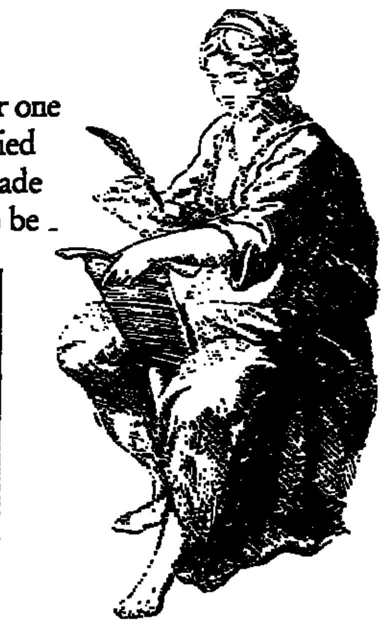
With up to 3 years' post-qualification experience, you will be acting mainly for one major client whose high activity in the shipping field produces many and varied legal problems. You must, therefore, be knowledgeable about international trade transactions and have a general interest in the shipping industry. You will also be enthusiastic and capable of independent or team work.

Send your full c.v. to Gillian Tamsett,
Personnel Manager,

Denton Hall Burgin & Warrens
SOLICITORS
LONDON · HONG KONG · LOS ANGELES · SINGAPORE
Denning House, 90 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1EU. Telephone: 01-242 1212

DH BW

A World of Opportunities



LONDON

COMPUTER LAWYER £ NEG
As a result of expansion, an important new position is being created in the intellectual property department of an eminent City practice for a lawyer qualified for around three years with a sound academic background and experience in commercial and/or intellectual property litigation including computer cases and related areas. The successful applicant will be highly motivated and be expected to contribute to the development of the department, working alongside an expert in the field of computer law. An excellent salary package will be available.

COMPANY COMMERCIAL To £28 K
A progressive central London firm seeks a solicitor of at least 2 years' post admission experience of top-drawer Yellow Book work to handle a wide range of corporate matters including public share issues, mergers and acquisitions and a variety of commercial transactions.

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GOLF: EUROPE'S LEADING PLAYER FINDS SWAPPING HIS CONTRACT ALLEGIANCE BRINGS A MYRIAD OF PROBLEMS ON AND OFF THE COURSE

Clubs change by Woosnam brings a race against time

From Mitchell Platts, Jacksonville

As Mark McCumber strode to a popular victory in the Tournament Players' championship at Ponte Vedra, so Ian Woosnam flew to Greensboro for a series of important meetings with officials from the Maruman Golf Club Company.

Four representatives have travelled from Japan and together with an American official, who is doubling as an interpreter, they will endeavour this week to work with Woosnam to shape the clubs to his exact requirement.

Time is running out. The last thing that Maruman would want is for Woosnam to win the Masters next week using his old Dunlop clubs. There is already a boardroom conflict which could lead to Dunlop facing legal action.

Mike Chapman, a British representative for Maruman, said: "Dunlop took an advertisement a couple of weeks ago asking Ian Woosnam if he would like to re-sign his contract with them. I'm now seeking legal help to see if I can sue them.

"There are several other things that have upset Ian and I understand that he has politely or impolitely told Dunlop what to do with their ball contract. I've never known this business to get as dirty as this, and I've been in it for 25 years. Ian has been very loyal to Dunlop, and that advertisement was surely a bit below the belt."

This does not camouflage the fact that since Woosnam signed with Maruman during the winter, he failed to rediscover the form which won for him eight titles and more than £1 million last year.

Chapman added: "Quite honestly it is normal when a company takes on a player for him to visit that company in their own environment, and Ian just hasn't had the time to go to Japan. But if it comes to the crunch then that is what he will need to do. It is very difficult working at arm's length. We have visited Ian in Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, the United Kingdom, and now America, and it is a little like a tailor taking his suits around the world.

"We have now made up several sets of clubs very similar to what Ian wants. We have reached the point where only a minute alteration to the sole of the club at the heel, so they sit right for him, is all that is required. Maruman is a very capable company, and they are also a very fair company. They have given their blessing to Ian to use whatever clubs he wants until the Maruman clubs are right for him."

Woosnam is desperately keen to have these clubs in his bag and the behind-the-scenes problems have clearly been playing on his mind. He looked a shadow of himself during the TPC and he miserably failed to survive the halfway cut.

Woosnam was in good company. Sandy Lyle, the defending champion, Nick Faldo, Ken Brown, and Severiano Ballesteros were all victims of the guillotine along with Jack Nicklaus and Tom Watson, and the weekend belonged to the local boy, McCumber, who gained the most important victory of his career.

McCumber visited the tour school no fewer than six times. He spent two years studying for the ministry — his parents are Jehovah's Witnesses — and then he worked for five years in an office as a landscape designer. Today the McCumber Group, which includes his three brothers, is one of the biggest golf course design companies in the United States.

McCumber has always craved for personal glory on the course. "I can't tell you what this win means to me, especially as it has come in my own backyard," said the Floridian. "It means that I'm exempt for the Open championship at Royal Lytham and that will give me another chance to win a major championship.

McCumber won the first prize of $225,000 (about £120,000) with a tournament record aggregate of 273, 15 under par, and he had four strokes to spare over Reid.

Florida's flower: McCumber bears witness to his Tournament Players' championship title

Ku churns out the pars to hold on for a double first

From Patricia Davies, Phoenix, Arizona

Take a South Korean, a Japanese, and an English woman, put them on the Ladies Professional Golf Association tour and you have no joke but three of this season's LPGA winners.

Ok-Hee Ku, the Korean, is the latest, having held on gamely to win the Standard Register Turquoise Classic at Moon Valley here on Sunday. She finished just one shot ahead of Ayako Okamoto, of Japan, who was Player of the Year last year and won in Hawaii earlier this month, and of Dottie Mochrie, a rookie from New York.

Laura Davies, the English woman in the equation, followed up her victory in Tucson with a solid performance that lacked only putting sparkle. A last round of 74, one over par, gave her a total of 289, three under par and eight shots behind Ku. Another European, Liselotte Neumann was on 288 after a round of 73.

Ku needed to hold a 12ft putt for a par at the last to avoid a play-off and she did so with remarkable calm, considering all that was at stake — a first prize of $52,500 (£28,400), the biggest of the season so far; her first victory in the United States; and a chance to boost interest in the game back home.

Through her interpreter — a Korean now living in Tucson who was pressed into service to replace a Japanese journalist, whose suspect Korean made communications frustratingly convoluted — Ku admitted she felt very good about the putt and never really doubted it would go in. She did confess that she was mildly surprised — she is not a woman given to over-statement — that her score of 72 had been good enough to hold off her challengers.

The Korean, who has won many times in the Far East, is now third on the money list and Okamoto has moved up to No. 1. Davies stays in sixth place and leads the Rookie of the Year race.

LEADING FINAL SCORES (US unless noted): 281: Ok-Hee Ku (S Kor), 71, 68, 70, 72. 282: A Okamoto (Japan), 71, 71, 70, 70; D Mochrie, 70, 72, 71, 69. 284: A Alcott, 65, 73, 73, 73; C Walker, 67, 71, 73, 73. 285: C Johnson, 70, 76, 70, 69; H Farr, 74, 69, 71, 71; J Inkster, 72, 71, 70, 72. 287: N Brown, 74, 69, 75, 69; S Turner, 75, 73, 68, 71; J Geddes, 73, 74, 68, 72; D Ammaccapane, 70, 72, 71, 74; R Jones, 70, 71, 70, 76. Others: 289: L Davies (GB), 75, 70, 70, 74.

Tartan Tour incentive

Home-based professionals will have an added incentive on the Scottish Professional Tour this summer, for they will be playing for record prize-money of £367,000. The PGA Scottish Region yesterday announced a £40,000 increase over last year, which maintains the steady growth of the tour over the past decade.

From a mere £98,000 in 1979, the prize-money on the Scottish professional circuit has risen every year — and it could yet smash the £400,000 barrier this season. Two of the major events, the Scottish PGA championship and Aberdeen's Granite City Classic, are without sponsors but PGA officials believe those problems can be resolved.

Sandy Jones, the PGA Scottish Region secretary, said: "No decision has yet been made regarding sponsorship and the date for the Scottish Championship, but we remain confident that it will still be the showpiece event on the Tartan Tour calendar."

Two Order of Merit tables will be sponsored — for leading professionals and also assistants — while the schedule has more than 125 days of tournament play.

ICE HOCKEY

Warriors' hopes fulfilled by Morrison

By Norman de Mesquita

Murrayfield Racers are champions of the Heineken League premier division once again. An 11-6 home win over Dundee Tigers gave them two points to spare over the season's most improved team, Whitley Warriors.

There was, however, consolation for the Warriors. Their Canadian player, Scott Morrison, maintained his position as leading scorer being eight points ahead of Rick Fera, of Solihull

Kevin Conway, of Telford Tigers, finished top of the first division scorers and led his team to an aggregate win in the play-off against the northern section winners, Cleveland Barons. The Tigers now meet Peterborough Pirates, home and away, to determine which team plays in the premier division next season.

The Pirates were the disappointment of the premier division, finishing six points adrift of their nearest rivals.

The groupings for the Heineken Championship quarter-finals find Racers, Barons and Fife Flyers in Group A, Warriors, Durham Wasps and Nottingham Panthers in Group B. The play-offs will be held over the next three weekends with the top two in each group qualifying for the semi-finals at Wembley on April 23.

With only seven points covering the top four teams and with the Panthers and Barons lacking the consistency of their rivals, present form would indicate that the two Midland sides would be the ones to miss out on a Wembley appearance.

RESULTS: Heineken League Premier division: Nottingham Panthers 5, Durham Wasps 7; Solihull Barons 7, Fife Flyers 10; Whitley Warriors 16, Peterborough Pirates 3; Ayr Bruins 9, Whitley Warriors 5; Durham Wasps 10, Peterborough Pirates 6; Solihull Barons 13, Dundee Tigers 10. First division play-off: (over two legs): Cleveland Bombers 10, Telford Tigers 12; Telford Tigers 9, Cleveland Bombers 4 (Tigers win 21-14 on agg).

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PRUDENTIAL

Boris Becker tells Linda Pentz what went wrong in 1987 and of a special engagement in June

Reflections of a golden boy

Making his point: Boris Becker, with high hopes for 1988 after his first tournament win for nine months

Boris Becker, West German superstar, who has twice been Wimbledon champion, sits alone in a secluded villa in Florida. Usually shielded from the limelight by a coach, manager, agent and girlfriend, Becker is enjoying a rare moment of solitude.

Enjoying is perhaps the wrong word. Once wishing only to be "one of the guys," Becker, just 20, now finds himself very rich but also lonely, with few companions amongst his fellow players. His world ranking has slipped to four – it had been down to six a week earlier, an all-time low since his Wimbledon triumphs, when he was ranked second.

He has seen fame and incredible fortune. He became Wimbledon's youngest male champion in 1985, at the age of 17. He won again the following year. But 1987 proved to be a disaster, both professionally and personally. A blow-up on court in Melbourne, at the Australian Open in January, where he lost at an early stage to Wally Masur, was quickly followed by a split with his long-time coach, Gunther Bosch. Becker floundered again at Wimbledon, losing in the second round to another unheralded Australian, Peter Doohan. He went without a title from June, when he triumphed at Queen's Club, until earlier this month when he took the Newsweek Champions Cup at Indian Wells, California.

His private life, particularly his relationship with a 24-year-old girl *from Monaco*, Benedicte Courtin, came under close scrutiny from the Press. In Germany, a retinue of *media personnel followed his* every move.

Becker describes 1987 as a sometimes bitter but valuable experience. And in the tranquility of his Orlando villa, he finds time to reflect on the disappointments of 1987 and his hopes for 1988.

"Last year I was paying too much attention to other people's opinions, and not what I really thought about things, "said Becker, who admitted that the frenzied celebrations of his earlier success, by both media and fans, affected his own outlook.

"Every time I won a tournament I was the big, big superstar and every time I lost in the first round I would be the worst player in history. That's what would carry me away. It used to be I would celebrate for a couple of days if I won a tournament and I would be very, very low and down when I lost. Then I had no confidence at all.

"Now I'm happy if I win and sure, I'm a little disappointed if I lose, but both are not so extreme. Now I know, basically, how good I am, how much I'm still missing to be the No. 1 and I basically know my way around tennis."

The initial blow came when Becker split with Bosch, who subsequently went into print in the German newspapers, even bringing out a book which seemed, to Becker, to glory in the youngster's triumphs as if they were Bosch's own.

"Before he was together with me he was a nobody," Becker said. "I was the first guy he had who became something. Suddenly he thought he was a great trainer. I think he thought he was winning Wimbledon, not me. At the end he was more a spokesperson for the Press than a helper for me.

"A long time before we split I said, 'Listen, I think you helped me a lot but to be the No. 1 I don't think you can help me now.' He said, 'Yes, we see,' but then in Melbourne I got the right moment when I had the worst match of my career. And I was a bastard there, I agree that. Everyone is one day a bastard."

Now Becker has a new coach, the Australian, Bob Brett, who runs a tight ship, keeps a low profile and refuses to discuss his pupil with the Press. "That's what I wanted, a coach, not a media talking man," Becker said.

The split with Bosch, and subsequent bad feelings, were a shock to Becker's system. "I think I'm less naive now," he said. "It really opened my eyes because it was my first experience of being really disappointed. It was like when you're 17 and you have your first girlfriend and suddenly you find her with another, on the grass or something."

Becker's first date was with Courtin. Their relationship became and remained a serious one, causing Becker to grow up fast and learn a few harsh lessons along the way. "I could not do what a normal 18 or 19-year-old should do, having a first date, having lunch, just experiencing life. I missed that. I had to learn it one time and that was last year.

"Benedicte came to me in 1986. I met her at the Monte Carlo tournament. For me that was a completely new experience, but then again, maybe, I would have liked to have started differently with a girlfriend not as steady, not as serious.

"But my life and my image was so different. I couldn't just go into a discotheque and meet a girl because it was there the next day in the papers. Or the girl would go and sell herself. I met a girl in Frankfurt last October and in February she was a Playboy cover girl, telling the story of her night with me.

"So I was lucky enough to find someone like Benedicte who lives the kind of life, like a gypsy, that we live and who respected that and who helps me as much as she can. We have a relationship like we are married."

Fame and the arrival of a girlfriend isolated Becker from his fellow players, a camaraderie that, by necessity, he had to let go. "It's just simply that I cannot. I wish I could. But once we're on the court, I cannot be one of the boys because if I was, I wouldn't be a Wimbledon champion at 17. In Hamburg, in 1986, I wanted to stay in the players' hotel, but then the whole breakfast room was full of TV and reporters. Once I was on the court, my mind was gone." (Becker lost there to Mel Purcell in the first round).

"It's sad, but I have to accept the fact that I want to win. That's why so many so-called superstars are quite lonely or don't have many friends in their business, because everybody's trying to get you, somewhere.

"On the court, everybody's trying to beat me, which is normal. So I have to protect myself so they don't know me so well. If they knew all my weaknesses, they would beat me easily, every time probably."

Becker has particular problems on court with one American, Tim Wilkison, who indulges in fist-thumping gamesmanship when playing the West German. "I used to play him and he beat me and I beat him, no problem," Becker said. "Then, at the US Open, he became out of his mind and he tried again last week in Indian Wells."

Angry words have also been exchanged on court with John McEnroe. "With McEnroe I don't really have a problem because he's different, he can play tennis. I accept with McEnroe it's the image. He's trying to intimidate not only me, but he's doing it with everyone. So it's okay. Or Ivan Lendl tries to hit me, that's okay, it's Lendl and he has done something in his career. But if a guy like Wilkison is trying those things, that's ridiculous."

After Becker's first Wimbledon victory, he found himself the object of frenzied adulation in Germany. "I realised I became much more than just a tennis player. I became like a national hero. Many Germans saw in me not a tennis player but a guy who brings the message over to other countries, that we have something in Germany that we can be proud of. I realised what it was all about, that it wasn't just a tennis match. It was like a guy who's not playing with a racket, but is playing with a flag."

Becker was a star, until he began to lose. "That's basically what it is all about. The big rise of an Agassi, a wonderkid or whatever, who beats the hell out of everybody and then maybe two years down the road they ask, 'What's happening, you're not No. 1?'

"You don't become No. 1 in two years. Then the fall and then, when you're a little bit older, the famous comeback. That's what it's all about in sport and that's what not all media people, but a couple, try to do, especially in cheaper papers."

In the past six months, however, the media panic surrounding Becker has died down. "They have more respect for me now because they slowly see who I am. I am not a wonderkid. I'm just a guy who can play decent tennis, who is not too stupid, who is trying to be the best he can be."

The press have also, Becker feels, come to realise that their superstar is, after all, barely out of his teens. "They forget, because I won Wimbledon at 17. It's like you have to be a man to win there, you cannot be a kid. Then they ask you all those man questions and you have to answer quite decently. They say if you're old enough to win Wimbledon, you're old enough for the world. And in some ways I was, and in some ways I wasn't."

Becker himself has a few superstars he admires. "Springsteen. I haven't yet met him, and I would like to. The rest I've met, including President Reagan." Becker does have a rather special dinner engagement lined-up when he returns to England in June. "With Lady Di," he says, pronouncing it 'Lady Dee'. "I know her quite well. We had an interesting discussion when I met her in Frankfurt last October. She invited me to dinner during Wimbledon."

TENNIS

Maturity and hard graft needed to hold on to top spot

From Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent
Key Biscayne, Florida

Steffi Graf and Mats Wilander, who won the Australian titles two months ago, beat the 1974 Wimbledon champions, Chris Evert and Jimmy Connors, in the singles finals of the fourth Lipton championships. Martina Navratilova and Ivan Lendl did not compete, but the evidence suggests that the younger generation of Europeans are increasing their takeover bid.

Graf also shared the women's doubles title, with Gabriela Sabatini, and thus raised her prize money for the fortnight to £75,000. This year Graf is defending a reputation instead of making one. Such a transition, largely mental, is not easy. But Graf is mature enough to make it.

Wilander, still only 23, was a tenacious but dull base-liner when he won the French title in 1982. He has since won the French again, plus three Australian championships, and in the process has become technically and tactically more flexible. The obvious improvements have been in his service and in his acquisition of a one-handed, sliced backhand — in addition to his more familiar top-spun shot, hit two-handed.

In beating Connors 6-4, 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 in a final that lasted three hours and 38 minutes, Wilander displayed his technical progress but, tactically, reverted to type. This made sense, because he is the sounder base-liner of the two, but in the forecourt, is not good enough to frustrate such a great counter-puncher as Connors.

Even so, Wilander was disappointed that he had not mixed his game more. He was certainly less impressive here than he was in the Australian final. But he served 10 aces, six of them in a third set that was important to the confidence of both men.

Connors has played in 54 official events and reached 11 finals since he last won a tournament, in 1984. "Today he was awfully close," Wilander said. "But you can't feel sorry for somebody who has been number one and has won so many Wimbledon and US titles."

Wilander: More flexible

Like Wilander, Connors stuck to his chosen strategy — in his case, to get to the net as often as possible and shorten the rallies. It almost worked. But Connors confessed that at the age of 35, "the pain's a little deeper, the practice a little harder, the travel a little longer".

Inaugurated in 1985, the championships now have a new, unusual agreement with the founding sponsors. Lipton have agreed to back event for 30 years until the end of 2018, in return for a piece of the action. Lipton have become partners in the enterprise. They are moving into the management of the tournament and will take their chances of profits or losses.

By next year, a clubhouse will have been built at a cost of about £1.5 million. Later there will be a new £8.5 million stadium. It has always been fun to have four major championships a year, all of them lasting a fortnight and incorporating both sexes and five events. Now we have a fifth such tournament. That has to be good for the game.

YACHTING

Amatora proves to be in a class of her own

From Malcolm McKeag, Hong Kong

Amatora III, the former British Admiral's Cupyacht, yesterday performed an unusual double by winning her class (Panda) in both the IOR and CHS divisions in the first inshore race of the China Sea series in Hong Kong.

The result was unusual because organizers have decided to accept simultaneous entries in the two divisions of the combined fleet, a practice which would be unlikely in a British series.

Amatora's German owner, Eric Geiling, will not be allowed to collect both prizes, however. In the event of a double winner, the prize will be given only in the division in which the entry has the best overall result.

Amatora, from Manila, will have her work cut out in prising loose the grip on the major trophy of the Hong Kong yachtsmen. They usually dominate this series. Frank Pong's Castrol 41 Jelik, second yesterday, still looks favourite for overall IOR honours, particularly in light of afavourable rating.

The decision of the race committee to disqualify 13 yachts from the intermediate offshore race, for failing to complystrictly with the rules in their signing-off procedure, is likely to spark a protest and requests for redress.

RESULTS: IOR division: 1, Amatora III (E Geiling, Briand One Ton); 2, Jelik (F Pong, Castrol 41); 3, Sunstreaker (N Pryde, Castrol 37); 4, Bimblegumbie (K Jacobs, Dubois 43); 5, Sweet Caroline (S Ellis, Dubois 44); 6, Switchblade (J Whyte, Farr 43). **CHS division:** 1, Amatora III; 2, Sweet Caroline; 3, Bugis (V Locke, Holland 40); 4, Carlad VIII (R Maynard, Contessa 35); 5, Intrigue (I Nicolson, Farr 38); 6, Petite Fleur (A Burge, First Class 12).

OVERSEAS FOOTBALL

Werder Bremen close in on title

Werder Bremen's hopes of their first West German League title since 1965, moved a step closer with an emphatic 3-1 victory over close rivals, **Bayern Munich**. Bremen have finished on the heels of the champions three times in the last five years, but with eight matches remaining they are now four points clear of both Bayern and **FC Cologne**.

Tension synonymous with a meeting between top-of-the-table teams did not escape the notice of the referee who reached for the book on seven occasions. A goal behind after 25 minutes, a Matthaus penalty, Bremen levelled matters within two minutes, this time Ordenowitz scoring from the spot, before two goals from Riedle settled the outcome.

Tony Woodcock, the former England forward, opened Cologne's acount in their 3-0 victory over **Waldhof Mannheim**. **VFB Stuttgart** stayed fourth with a 2-0 win over **SC Karlsruhe**, while **FC Nuremberg** are still fifth despite a 3-0 loss to **Borussia Moenchengladbach**.

The action during **Internazionale Milan's** 4-2 win over **Roma** was not confined to the pitch as police charged sixty Roma supporters with criminal damage and violent behaviour after they damaged a bus en route to the match. League leaders **Napoli** stayed on the championship scent despite a scoreless draw at Torino while **AC Milan** missed an opportunity to peg back the defending champions after being held 0-0 by lowly Avellino.

Real Madrid and **PSV Eindhoven**, opposed in the first leg of the European Cup semi-finals on April 6, continued their relentless march towards league titles with one-sided victories.

Real were never seriously troubled in their 3-1 triumph at home to **Sabadell**. The victory kept Real eight points clear of **Real Sociedad**, 4-0 winners against **Logrones**.

PSV were even more impressive in putting six goals past **PEC Zwolle** without reply. Like Real, PSV hold an eight-point lead, over **Ajax**.

OVERSEAS LEAGUE RESULTS

AUSTRIAN: Austria Vienna 1, FK Wien 2; FK Tyrol 0, Rapid Vienna 0; Graz AK 4, Admira Wacker 1; Wiener SK 1, Sturm Graz 2. **Leading positions:** 1, Rapid Vienna, played 25, 39pts; 2, Austria Vienna, 25, 30; 3, Graz AK, 25, 30.

BRAZILIAN: Rio de Janeiro: Fluminense 1, Flamengo 0; Bangu 1, America 0; Cabofriense 3, Porto Alegre 0; Volta Redonda 0, Americano 0; Goytacaz 1, Friburguense 0. **Leading positions:** 1, Flamengo 18pts; 2, Fluminense, 16; 3, Vasco da Gama, 15. **São Paulo:** Palmeiras 1, Inter Limeira 1; São Paulo 1, São Bento 0; Corinthians 2, Mogi Mirim 0; Juventus 2, São Jose 1; Santos 1, Portuguesa 1; Guarani 1, Novorizontino 0; Piracicaba 3, Noroeste 2; America 4, Botafogo 1; Jau 0, Santo Andre 0; Ferroviaria 1, Uniao 0. **Leading positions:** Group One: 1, Inter Limeira 11pts; 2, Mogi Mirim, 10; 3, Jau, 8. Group Two: 1, Guarani, 10pts; 2, Corinthians, 9; 3, São Jose, 8.

BULGARIAN: Lokomotiv Sofia 1, Trakia 2; Lokomotiv Plovdiv 2, Slavia 4; Vratsa 1, Spartak Pleven 1; Sliven 1, Beroe 1; Etur 1, Lokomotiv Gorna Oryahovitsa 1; Spartak Varna 1, Chernomorets 0; Vitosha 3, Pirin 1; Mineur 0, Sredets 2.

Leading positions: 1, Vitosha, played 21, 33pts; 2, Sredets, 21, 31; 3, Trakia, 21, 26.

DUTCH: AZ Alkmaar 4, Roda JC 1; Haarlem 2, DS '79 0; PEC Zwolle 0, PSV Eindhoven 6; Willem II 1, FC Twente 1; FC Groningen 0, Sparta Rotterdam 0; VVV Venlo 3, Den Haag 2; Volendam 1, Ajax Amsterdam 2; Den Bosch 1, Fortuna Sittard 1; Feyenoord Rotterdam v Utrecht (postponed). **Leading positions:** 1, PSV, played 28, 50pts; 2, Ajax, 28, 42; 3, FC Twente, 29, 32.

EAST GERMAN: Dynamo Berlin 5, Hansa Rostock 1; Lokomotiv Leipzig 1, Dynamo Dresden 1; FC Magdeburg 2, Chemie Halle 0; Wismut Aue 1, Karl-Marx-Stadt 3; Rot-Weiss Erfurt 2, Vorwaerts Frankfurt 0; Stahl Riesa 1, Union Berlin 2; Carl Zeiss Jena 1, Stahl Brandenburg 1. **Leading positions:** 1, Dynamo Berlin, played 18, 25pts; 2, Dynamo Dresden, 18, 25; 3, Lokomotiv Leipzig, 17, 24.

FRENCH: Toulouse 2, Saint-Etienne 3; Paris Saint-Germain 0, Laval 0; Niort 1, Lille 0; Monaco 0, Toulon 0; Cannes 1, Bordeaux 0; Auxerre 3, Matra Racing 0; Marseille 1, Metz 0; Lens 0, Nice 1; Le Havre 1, Nantes 0; Montpellier 6, Brest 0.

Leading positions: 1, Monaco, played 29, 40pts; 2, Bordeaux, 29, 36; 3, Matra Racing, 29, 35.

FAI CUP: Fifth round replay: Newcastlewest 1, Cobh Ramblers 0. Quarter-finals: Dundalk 0, Cork City 0; Home Farm 0, Derry City 3; St Patrick's Athletic 2, Limerick City 2.

GREEK: Kalamaria 2, OFI 0; Aris 1, Ethnikos 0; Verria 1, AEK 0; Diagoras 1, Panathinaikos 2; Levadiakos 1, Larissa 0; Olympiakos 2, PAOK 1; Panahaiki 3, Iraklis 3; Panseraikos 2, Panionios 0. **Leading positions:** 1, Larissa, played 25, 36pts; 2, OFI, 25, 32; 3, AEK, 25, 32.

ITALIAN: Avellino 0, AC Milan 0; Cesena 0, Juventus 0; Empoli 1, Como 1; Internazionale 4, Roma 2; Pescara 3, Verona 0; Pisa 1, Ascoli 1; Sampdoria 1, Fiorentina 0; Torino 0, Napoli 0. **Leading positions:** 1, Napoli, played 24, 39pts; 2, AC Milan, 24, 35; 3, Roma, 24, 33.

PORTUGUESE: Braga 0, Espinho 1; Rio Ave 2, Farense 1; Penafiel 2, Academica 1; Chaves 0, Belenenses 0; Elvas 0, Guimaraes 0; Setubal 5, Covilha 1; Sporting 1, Boavista 1; Maritimo 3, Varzim 1; Salgueiros 0, Benfica 0; Portimonense 0, Porto 0. **Leading positions:** 1, Porto, played 27, 47pts; 2, Benfica, 27, 39; 3, Belenenses, 27, 34.

POLISH: Gornik Walbrzych 0, Olimpia Poznan 0; Pogon Szczecin 2, Baltyk Gdynia 0; Zaglebie Lubin 1, Gornik Zabrze 1; Widzew Lodz 4, Stal Stalowa Wola 0; GKS Katowice 2, Slask Wroclaw 0; Lechia Gdansk 0, Jagiellonia Bialystok 0; Lech Poznan 0, Szombierki Bytom 1; Legia Warsawa 0, LKS Lodz 0. **Leading positions:** 1, Gornik Zabrze, played 18, 33pts; 2, LKS Lodz, 18, 25; 3, Widzew Lodz, 18, 23.

SOVIET: Dynamo Kiev 1, Spartak Moscow 2; Torpedo Moscow 1, Dnepr Dnepropetrovsk 0; Zenit Leningrad 2, Ararat Yerevan 1; Kairat Alma-Ata 0, Shakhtyor Donetsk 1; Metallist Kharkov 0, Chernomorets Odessa 1; Zhalgiris Vilnius 2, Neftchi Baku 0.

SPANISH: Barcelona 0, Betis 1; Real Sociedad 4, Logrones 0; Valladolid 2, Mallorca 0; Real Madrid 3, Sabadell 1; Gijón 2, Atlético Madrid 0; Zaragoza 1, Athletic Bilbao 1; Osasuna 1, Valencia 1; Sevilla 2, Cádiz 1; Las Palmas 0, Español 2; Murcia 1, Celta 0. **Leading positions:** 1, Real Madrid, played 30, 50pts; 2, Real Sociedad, 29, 42; 3, Atlético Madrid, 30, 37.

WEST GERMAN: Werder Bremen 3, Bayern Munich 1; Cologne 3, Waldhof Mannheim 0; Schalke 3, Borussia Dortmund 0; Hanover 6, Bayer Leverkusen 1; Kaiserslautern 2, Bayer Uerdingen 2; Karlsruhe 0, Stuttgart 2; Borussia Mönchengladbach 3, Nuremberg 0; Eintracht Frankfurt 1, FC Homburg 2; Bochum 4, Hamburg SV 0. **Leading positions:** 1, Werder Bremen, played 26, 41pts; 2, Bayern Munich, 26, 37; 3, Cologne, 26, 37.

EQUESTRIANISM

Selectors pick top nine for Olympic list

Dressage selectors have chosen the nine best placed amateurs from last Friday's Grand Prix, at the British Equestrian Centre, for their Olympic long list (a Special Correspondent writes).

The highest placed and most likely team members are the reigning British National champion, Patricia Gardiner, and her horse, Wily Imp, the 1987 dressage horse of the year, Dutch Gold, ridden by Jennie Loriston-Clarke, and Diana Mason, partnered by Prince Consort. These three riders have represented Britain on many occasions, but the remaining six are relative newcomers.

BRITISH SQUAD: S Clarke (Becket), J Farlow (Arnhem), T Foden (Quentas' Vegas), B Hammond (Krist), J Loriston-Clarke (Dutch Gold), D Mason (Prince Consort), P Gardiner (Wily Imp), V Peters (Tilburg), F Rudge (Florida Flash).

TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated

Barclays League

First division

Chelsea v Watford
Everton v Wimbledon
Luton v Portsmouth (7.45)

Third division

Aldershot v Blackpool

Fourth division

Rochdale v Cardiff
Torquay v Swansea

GM Vauxhall Conference

Bath v Fisher
Macclesfield v Weymouth
Sutton Utd v Kettering
Wealdstone v Stafford

COUNTY ANTRIM FA CENTENARY TOURNAMENT: Distillery v Newtonabbey; Glentoran v RUC; Larne v Dundela; Linfield v Carrick.

CENTRAL LEAGUE (7.0): First division: Bradford v Hull (7.30); Grimsby v Coventry; Manchester United v Sheffield Wednesday. **Second division:** Oldham v Rotherham; Preston v West Bromwich; Wigan v Blackburn.

SUNDAY MIRROR COMBINATION: Bristol Rovers v Tottenham; Charlton v Brighton (3.0); Fulham v Norwich (2.0); Portsmouth v Swindon (7.0); Queen's Park Rangers v Crystal Palace (2.0). **Postponed:** Arsenal v Southampton.

MACBAR SOUTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Plymouth Argyle v Newport.

VAUXHALL-OPEL LEAGUE: AC Delco Cup: Semi-final, second leg *(first leg score in brackets)*: Hayes (1) v Wokingham (1). **Premier division:** Basingstoke v Windsor and Eton; Harrow v Bromley; Hendon v Croydon; Hitchin v Carshalton; Leyton-Wingate v Leytonstone-Ilford. **First division:** Billericay v Worthing (7.45); Hampton v Walton and Hersham; Staines v Boreham Wood; Wembley v Uxbridge; Woking v Basildon. **Second division north:** Clapton v Heybridge; Finchley v Ware; Letchworth v Aveley (7.45); Saffron Walden v Haringey Borough (7.45); Witham v Hertford; Wivenhoe v Harlow. **Second division south:** Banstead v Chalfont St Peter; Epsom and Ewell v Camberley; Hungerford v Horsham (7.45); Southall v Maidenhead United; Whyteleafe v Newbury (7.45).

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: President's Cup: Semi-final, first leg: Bangor City v Southport. **Premier division:** Marine v Rhyl; Matlock v Barrow. **First division:** Harrogate v Stalybridge.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Westgate Insurance Cup: Semi-final: Gloucester v Bromsgrove. **Premier division:** Aylesbury v Bedworth; Dartford v Witney; Gosport v Alvechurch. **Midland division:** Banbury v Mile Oak; Merthyr Tydfil v Sutton Coldfield; Moor Green v Atherstone; Stourbridge v Forest Green. **Southern division:** Erith and Belvedere v Thanet; Folkestone v Salisbury; Sheppey v Ruislip.

BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: *First division:* Bootle v Kirkby (5.45); Colne Dynamoes v Glossop (7.45); Ellesmere Port and Neston v Colwyn Bay; Rossendale v Darwen; Warrington v Formby (5.45).

KNIGHT FLOODLIGHT CUP: Quarter-final: Harwich and Parkeston v Dover (7.45).

FA YOUTH CUP: Fifth round: Crewe v Arsenal. Semi-final, first leg: Doncaster v Tottenham.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCH: Neath v Llanelli (7.0).

STUDENTS' INTERNATIONAL: England v Wales (at Bristol, 7.15).

OTHER SPORT

BOXING: WBC welterweight championship: Lloyd Honeyghan v Jorge Vaca (Mex, holder) (at Wembley).

HOCKEY: Women's tour match: Liverpool v France XI (at Walton Sports Centre).

RACKETS: Public Schools' doubles championship: Final (at Queen's Club, West Kensington).

SNOOKER: Embassy World championship: Preliminary rounds (at Preston).

SPEEDWAY: Challenge: Milton Keynes v Exeter.

SQUASH RACKETS: World junior championships (at Edinburgh).

SPORT ON TV

BOXING: ITV 11.35 p.m.: Seconds Out: Highlights from the York Hall, Bethnal Green.

VOLLEYBALL

Sale bank their second title

By Roddy MacKenzie

Sale assured themselves of the women's first division title in the Royal Bank English League by beating Istari-Malory at the weekend, making up for the disappointment of their Knock Out Cup final defeat by Ashcombe earlier this month.

Sale, who only came into the first division in 1985, have now won the title twice during their three-year spell in the top flight and, with such a young squad, can only get better.

On Saturday, they were stretched to four sets by Istari-Malory before coming through 15-4, 7-15, 15-3, 15-3, while Arsenal Britannia clinched second place in the table by beating Birmingham (15-5, 15-13, 15-7) and Dragonara Leeds (15-9, 16-14, 16-14). Arsenal have finished the season strongly. They have won their last twelve league matches and could pose a threat to Sale at the Supercup in Manchester in May.

Two of their players — Janet Smith and Helen Campbell — have been included in the England squad for the West European Championships in Athens next month. Campbell is the only uncapped player in the squad and England are taking just ten players, the others being: Donna Sedgwick, Julie Smith, Rachel Roberts (all Sale), Debbie Frost, Marianne Gilbert, Karen Gosling (all Ashcombe), Wendy Gate (Dragonara Leeds) and Amanda Glover (Birmingham). England play Portugal in their opening match on April 24, then face France and Cyprus in their initial group.

Meanwhile, Rob Wiggett, coach to Time Out Spark, is not too downhearted despite his team's disappointing end to the season. Spark, who led the men's first division for much of the season, have stuttered badly in recent weeks, and they lost 15-11, 10-15, 11-15, 5-15 to Staffordshire Moorlands at the weekend.

However, the London side were without two key players and Wiggett warned: "We'll be a different proposition in the Supercup. We've had problems in recent weeks and it's all been very frustrating but we're looking forward to the Supercup."

Malory, the league champions, Liverpool City and Redwood Lodge will make up the Supercup opposition in *Manchester*.

BASKETBALL

Umpire in decision storm stands firm

By Nicholas Harling

Peter Wright, the umpire at the centre of the latest, and probably the worst episode in the season-long conflict with officialdom, was yesterday sticking by his controversial decision that sent Portsmouth into tomorrow's final of the NatWest Trophy at Polycell Kingston's expense.

Wright's assertion that Steve Bontrager had fouled Karl Tatham, the Portsmouth captain, as he launched his last desperate, unavailing, throw, caused the furore at Tolworth Leisure Centre that did not subside until 15 minutes after the second leg of the semi-final had finished.

The dispute came after Joel Moore's shot six seconds from time had given Kingston an 80-72 lead on the night and would have given them victory on aggregate by one point, Portsmouth having won last Wednesday's first leg by 94-87. Tatham, *who appeared to take his subsequent shot* for Portsmouth unmolested by Bontrager or anyone else, shook his head when asked if he had been fouled. "Bontrager didn't touch me," he said.

Wright, a late replacement for Malcolm Heath, clearly thought otherwise, however. The official, who wisely decided not to take his usual post-match drink in the Tolworth bar, confirmed yesterday : "I thought it was a foul and I'm surprised other people didn't think so. I heard that Karl Tatham didn't think it was, but that doesn't alter the way I saw it." Wright, aged 40, is also in charge of the final, in which Portsmouth play MIM Livingston in Birmingham. He is adamant that referees this season are no worse than before.

"The players seem to think *officiating* is worse now, but I personally I am the same referee I was four or five years ago," he said. "Our referees are rated highly wherever they go."

Regarded as one of Britain's top officials, Wright took charge of the Monaco versus MTV Guissen Korac Cup tie earlier in the season. Will Jones, the referee on Saturday, is also no stranger to the European scene, but between them they seemed to commit the unforgivable sin of changing their minds not once but twice. Having decided that Tatham had been fouled they reversed *that* decision under Kingston protests.

Kingston's celebrations were then cut short a second time when Tatham was ordered to the free throw line to take three shots as Bontrager's foul was adjudged to have come in his act *of shooting. Amid bedlam from* the home crowd, the England captain sank the first two shots to take Portsmouth, already the league champions for a second year running, into their second cup final of the season. Their win was by 168-167 aggregate.

Kingston, however, could have made the last minute furore academic. An inspired spell from Scott saw Kingston lead by 67-49 and 11 points on aggregate midway through the second half, but they allowed Portsmouth to regain the initiative.

The other semi-final was subdued by comparison. MIM, also trailing by seven points, had wiped off their arrears within eight minutes before going on to beat Calderdale Explorers 96-67 and 164-142 on aggregate.

SWIMMING

Search for new style

A working party has been set up to look at ways of making the international sport more attractive for television and the public. Lengthy discussions over the weekend by the European Amateur Swimming Bureau, in Malta, led to the investigation which will include seeking the advice of public relations experts and TV advisers (Roy Moor writes).

Norman Sarsfield, of Britain, secretary of the European Swimming Federation, is to be one of *the working party along with* representatives of Yugoslavia, Sweden, Austria and Poland.

One of the ideas put forward for the Malta meeting to consider was the introduction of circular course racing with obstacle events to add variety as recently reported in *The Times*. Sarsfield agrees that such events are unlikely to take place internationally "but at least the idea got people thinking about the best way for swimming to enhance its opportunities for more TV exposure".

SNOOKER

Davis will not be charmed

By Steve Acteson

Steve Davis refused to draw any portents from his 9-4 victory over Neal Foulds in the Benson and Hedges Irish Masters final at Goffs, County Kildare.

The multi-millionaire world No.1 from Romford has won the title three times before and then gone on to win the world championship in Sheffield. But after his latest triumph, and his fifth title of the season, defending world champion Davis said: "It's quite right for the media to draw conclusions from statistics like that but as a snooker player I'd be a mug to do it. If you go into tournaments looking for omens and loaded down with lucky charms it really only means that you're not very good.

"The only thing that is important is to know that you won the last tournament you played in, and although the Masters final was a bit low key I know I played well earlier in the tournament against Joe Johnson and Alex Higgins."

Davis's last singles tournament, the British Open at Derby, saw him whitewashed for the first time in his career, 5-0, by Ray Reardon, a result he reversed against the unfortunate Johnson. Davis said: "That whitewash by Ray didn't bother me. It's nice to know that defeats can't hurt badly any more.

"I'm already thinking very hard about the world championship. You can't leave the mental preparation until just a week or a fortnight before, even though I've had an unbelievable season".

That unbelievable season has amassed Davis £331,000 in prize money from his five victories and although he has won five tournaments in a season before and six fell to him in 1983-84 this is already his most prestigious term going into the world championship.

His tournament wins included three of the six rankings events along with a Benson an Hedges double of the Irish and Wembley Masters. And if he can win the World Championship a fifth time on May 2 snooker's man for all seasons will surely have set a gold standard that nobody except perhaps himself, could ever really hope to match.

RESULTS: Final: S Davis (Eng) beat N Foulds (Eng) 9-4. Frame scores (Davis first) 90-1, 74-19, 38-63, 85-19, 18-61, 69-30, 70-35, 45-64, 74-20, 72-34, 17-61, 79-15, 59-8.

هكذا من الاصل

RACING: FORSTER THE TRAINER TO FOLLOW ON INTRIGUING ALL-STEEPLECHASE CARD

Consistent Clara Mountain set for fresh Sandown triumph

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Clara Mountain and **Western Sunset** can make this a day to remember for their owner Simon Sainsbury, trainer Tim Forster and jockey Hywel Davies by landing a double on an all steeplechase card at Sandown this afternoon.

Clara Mountain, who did this column a good turn in December when winning the Palace Handicap Chase over today's course and distance, is again napped to win the Piper Champagne Right O'The Line Handicap Chase.

In the meantime he has won at Newbury, where he beat Smart Tar, who then went on to land the Mildmay Of Flete Challenge Cup at Cheltenham by four lengths from Bishops Yarn.

By my reckoning Clara Mountain now has a few pounds in hand of Bishops Yarn, who will carry top weight this afternoon.

He will also be meeting The Argonaut, who won the corresponding race 12 months ago, on 5lb better terms compared with when they clashed last at Cheltenham at the end of December. The Argonaut has not run since.

Dudie, another course and distance winner, and the recent Lingfield winner Kelly's Honor, whose form now looks all the better for Dunkirk's subsequent win at Newbury last Friday, are others who will help ensure an open betting market.

Stable companion Western Sunset still has it in him to win the Piper Champagne Alanbrooke Memorial Chase, in which he finished second last year, especially as Lunedale and Castle Warden are tied together by their running over course and distance 17 days ago when there was only half a length between them.

When Memberson won the corresponding race last year he had Western Sunset only a length behind, but on that occasion he was getting 24lb from my selection. This time the difference is 12lb.

Kilbrittain Castle and Royal Stag, both successful at the previous fixture, meet in the Royal Ordnance Handicap Chase, but I prefer **Midnight Count**, who finished a most creditable fourth behind Pearlyman, Desert Orchid and Very Promising in the Queen Mother Champion Chase at Cheltenham.

That performance was all the more meritorious when one considers that it was effectively Midnight Count's first proper race of the season as he had fallen first time out at Haydock.

Orwell Times, who was bought as a replacement for Neblin not long before he finished fourth in the Arkle Challenge Trophy at Cheltenham, is sure to go well in the British Aerospace Rapier Novices' Chase without necessarily proving good enough to give 8lb to **Majestic Buck**, whose overall form reads slightly better.

Now that Rattlin' Jack has been withdrawn, the Royal Artillery Gold Cup looks at the mercy of **Hot Fever**, who was beaten only half a length by Desert Fox at the last meeting.

The RMC Group *Ubique* Open Hunters' Chase should go to **Drive On Jimmy**, who beat Bright Oassis, one of his rivals, by 15 lengths at Doncaster before falling at the last at Leicester when lying second to Border Burg.

At Ayr, the Coodham Handicap looks like being a cracking race with Minizen Lad, Old Hubert, Gunner Mac and The Footman all standing their ground.

Old Hubert turned out to be an expensive failure when he was gambled upon at Doncaster last Thursday, only to finish someway behind Minizen Lad amongst others.

On the same programme The Footman fairly bolted home in a race confined to apprentices. As a result he now goes unpenalized.

But in spite of that my preference lies with **Gunner Mac**, who won the corresponding race last year. He was in good form later in the season, especially on this course, and he has been running consistently well over hurdles of late. He will be fit and loves the ground.

The best bet at Sedgefield should be **Maelkar** *to win the Peterlee Novices' Hurdle for Jonjo O'Neill and Mark Dwyer.*

Newnes in fine start to season

Billy Newnes continued his excellent beginning to the new season when Exhaust Man gave him his third success in four Flat racing days in the Alkham Selling Handicap at Folkestone yesterday.

Exhaust Man, a three-length winner from Cosmic Flight, is trained by Brooke Sanders at Epsom. It was her first runner of the season. "He's only a pony, but I hope to keep him because I bred him," she said, and did so without a bid.

Miss Sanders added that her star hurdler Calapaez, tenth in the Triumph, came home from Cheltenham in great shape and provided the ground is good now goes to Liverpool for the Glenlivet Hurdle.

Susan Piggott saddled her first winner as a trainer in her own right when Raahin, ridden by Pat Eddery, landed the Kingsnorth Handicap.

David Morley completed a 79¾-1 double with Holster and Calabrese. Heavy overnight rain, making the going heavy, prevented starting stalls being used at Ayr. However, the going proved no bar to the Alan Bailey-trained Kafu Lady, who made all to beat Agapae by 1½ lengths in the EBF Kidsneuk Stakes.

● The Irish-trained Hard Case is 20-1 (from 33s) with City Index for next month's Seagram Grand National.

Rushoise (Tom Illsley) winning *The Times* Championship qualifier at the Grafton on Saturday

Krypton lands emphatic win

Point-to-point by Brian Beel

The comfortable win of Mick Easterby's penalized Karakter Reference (Howard Brown) in the adjacent at the Derwent on Saturday pointed to the chance of Krypton in *The Times* Championship qualifier later in the afternoon.

At level weights at the Hurworth on the previous Saturday, Krypton had been beaten only two lengths, and the race duly went true to form.

Smullyan, unraced since the first day of the season when he fell when in a clear lead four out, suffered a similar fate at the third last. Krypton and Le Piat D'Or, who were looking dangerous at the time, were left with the race between them, and the issue never in serious doubt as David Kinsella on Krypton came home by four lengths.

In the Land Rover qualifier at the Burton, Brian Crawford and 13-year-old Vulgarion extended their unbeaten run this season to three and recorded their fifth win on the course. After Abbeytell had been caught four out, Crawford slipped the field and won as he liked.

It takes a good memory to recall when Sweet Diana was last beaten when completing – it was in fact at the Fernie in 1986 – and she again recorded another facile win in the ladies for Julie Dawson.

THE TIMES
Point-to-point
Championship

Daltmore looked likely to start favourite in the hunters' chase at Bangor on Saturday but, when the meeting was abandoned, was diverted to the South Herefordshire to run in the Land Rover qualifier.

He was, however, put in his place by Dingbat, who, under Simon Grundy, was winning for the fourth time this season. Daltmore made some late progess but was beaten into second place by 10 lengths.

David Turner looked to have timed his run well on Jolly Mac in the Audi event at the North Norfolk, leading three out, but Classic Touch responded well for Robert Gardiner and came to challenge just before the last and go on to win by three lengths.

Sea Express, who won the *The Times* Championship final at Towcester last year, made a belated re-appearance in the adjacent at the Vale Of Clettwr but looked in need of the race and finished fourth behind the favourite, Norton's Coin, on whom Pip Fisher deputised for her brother, Tim.

This was the first leg of a double for her, completed when Japling won the PPOA race. Tim went to the Curre to clinch a family four-timer on Bradfield Prince in the restricted and Lislary Lad in the open.

SANDOWN PARK

Selections
By Mandarin

2.00 CLARA MOUNTAIN (nap).
2.30 Majestic Buck.
3.00 Hot Fever.
3.35 Western Sunset.
4.10 Midnight Count.
4.40 Drive On Jimmy.

Michael Seely's selection: 4.10 MIDNIGHT COUNT (nap).
Brian Beel's selection: 4.40 Drive On Jimmy.

Going: good to soft

2.0 PIPER CHAMPAGNE RIGHT O'THE LINE HANDICAP CHASE (£3,778: 2m 4f 68yd) (10 runners)

101	0-22132	BISHOPS YARN 13 (D,G,S) (British Thoroughbred R & B Plc) G Balding 9-11-12	R Guest	97
102	4U-1301	THE ARGONAUT 88 (CD,F,G,S) (Queen Mother) F Walwyn 10-11-4	S Shilston	93
103	331321	CLARA MOUNTAIN 46 (CD,G,S) (S Sainsbury) T Forster 9-11-4	H Davies	● 99
104	P-10P00	KYOTO 21 (D,F,S) (B Monkhouse) J Jenkins 10-11-1	S Smith Eccles	88
105	2-2214F	WILY YEOMAN 14 (D,F,S) (Mrs H Alwen) J Gifford 9-10-12	R Rowe	92
106	11-104U	DUDIE 13 (CD,F,G,S) (J Halewood) R Akehurst 10-10-6	D McKeown	93
107	624601	KELLY'S HONOR 26 (B,D,S) (R Belasco) J Webber 9-10-6	G Mernagh	96
108	321/1-F0	YACARE 31 (D,F,G,S) (P Hopkins) J Gifford 9-10-0	Peter Hobbs	89
109	0-F14FP	TARCONEY 89 (CD,G,S) (R Whittle) P Cundell 8-10-0	P Scudamore	91
110	2FB3-4P	BLUECHER 26 (F,S) (J Stringer) D Grissell 7-10-0	R Goldstein	86

Long handicap: Yacare 9-13, Tarconey 9-12, Bluecher 9-9.

BETTING: 5-2 Clara Mountain, 100-30 Bishops Yarn, 5-1 Kelly's Honor, 13-2 The Argonaut, 8-1 Yacare, 10-1 Wily Yeoman, 14-1 Bluecher, 16-1 others.

1987: THE ARGONAUT 9-10-8 Mr M Bradstock (9-4) F Walwyn 6 ran

FORM BISHOPS YARN (11-8) fast finishing 4l 2nd to Smart Tar (10-2) at Cheltenham where DUDIE (10-2) was in 4th when unseated rider 12th (2m 4f, £14625, heavy, Mar 16, 15 ran).

THE ARGONAUT (10-12) beat CLARA MOUNTAIN (11-3) 3l at Cheltenham where TARCONEY (10-0) was carried out by a loose horse (2m 4f, £4433, good to soft, Dec 31, 6 ran).

CLARA MOUNTAIN (11-10) beat Smart Tar (10-13) a length at Newbury where WILY YEOMAN (11-8) was a distant 4th (2m 4f, £2960, heavy, Feb 13, 6 ran).

DUDIE (10-0) best effort this season a ½l beating of Gold Cup 3rd Beau Ranger (11-7) here with CLARA MOUNTAIN (11-3) 20l 3rd (2m 4f 68yd, £4292, good to soft, Oct 31, 6 ran).

WILY YEOMAN (11-0) seen to best effect when making all to beat Wollow Will (10-5) 3l at Lingfield with DUDIE (11-1) 22½l 4th (2m 4f, £2582, good to soft, Dec 12, 6 ran).

KELLY'S HONOR (11-5) beat Dunkirk (11-3) 6l at Lingfield where BLUECHER (10-11) was pulled up (2m4f, £2582, soft, Mar 3, 12 ran).

TARCONEY (11-1) best judged on 3l beating of Spartan Orient (9-10) earlier in the season here (3m 118yd, £3012, good to soft, Oct 31, 7 ran).

Selection: TARCONEY

2.30 BRITISH AEROSPACE RAPIER NOVICES CHASE (£4,386: 2m 4f 68yd) (5 runners)

201	121434	ORWELL TIMES 14 (D,G,S) (A Leather) G Balding 7-11-8	G Bradley	● 99
203	000-31P	HASTY DIVER 40 (D,S) (K Britten) J Old 7-11-4	R Dunwoody	57
204	122F41	TENESAINT 22 (D,S) (C Saunders) C Saunders 7-11-4	Mrs J Saunders	86
206	4-12123	MAJESTIC BUCK 60 (D,F,G,S) (D Peake) S Christian 8-11-0	R Beggan	98
208	203023	BARA PEG 18 (D,S) (D Smith) T M Jones 7-10-9	C Llewellyn	74

BETTING: 6-4 Orwell Times, 7-4 Majestic Buck, 6-1 Tenesaint, 8-1 Hasty Diver, 10-1 Bara Peg.

1987: LUCKY RASCAL 8-11-0 R Rowe (12-1) J Gifford 10 ran

FORM ORWELL TIMES (11-8) 15l 4th to Danish Flight (11-8) in the Arkle at Cheltenham (2m, £32146, soft, Mar 15, 12 ran).

HASTY DIVER (10-0) best judged on a neck defeat of Galterio (10-4) at Windsor on penultimate start (2m 5f, h'cap ch, £2104, soft, Jan 20, 14 ran).

TENESAINT (11-10) beat Golden Redeemer (11-1) 4l at Leicester (2m 4f, h'cap ch, £1811, good to soft, Mar 7, 8 ran).

MAJESTIC BUCK (10-12) 9l 3rd to Tonights The Night (11-2) here (2m 4f 68yd, £4760, good to soft, Jan 9, 7 ran).

BARA PEG (11-1) 6l 3rd to Missing Man (11-6) over course and distance (£3802, good, Mar 11, 6 ran).

Selection: ORWELL TIMES

3.0 ROYAL ARTILLERY GOLD CUP CHASE (Amateurs: £2,572: 3m 118yd) (10 runners)

303	202000-	APRIL PRINCE 318 (F,G) (P Fowler) P Fowler 7-12-0	C Moore	78
304	P0/3-00P	ASHLONE 28 (C,G,S) (S Tindall) D Grissell 9-12-0	C Sample	77
305	22-0020	DE PLUVINEL 18 (CD,S) (G Prest) G Prest 15-11-7	J Trice-Rolph	86
306	1413/3-2	HOT FEVER 18 (BF,S) (T Holland-Martin) T Holland-Martin 10-11-7	T Holland-Martin	● 99
308	U2-0R09	OPTIMUM 18 (B,D,F,G,S) (P Nicholson) D Nicholson 10-11-7	P Nicholson	75
309	0P0-00F	TURN BLUE 18 (CD,F,G,S) (Maj E O'F Wilson) R Champion 9-11-7	S Bullard	—
310	F0U4-0	COOLCOTTS 18 (Lt-Col R Symonds) Lt-Col R Symonds 12-11-3	D Warren	—
311	4000U4/	CRICKET WOOD 1056 (Maj C Moore) Maj C Moore 10-11-3	D Curnow	—
312	U/2P	NEXT BEST 11 (BF) (T Hills) T Hills 12-11-3	Mr T Hills	97
313	24PP0/F-	REDENHAM 364 (F Spencer) F Spencer 12-11-3	Capt C Lane	—

BETTING: 2-1 Hot Fever, 4-1 Next Best, 6-1 De Pluvinel, Optimum, 8-1 April Prince, 10-1 Turn Blue, 16-1 Coolcotts, 20-1 others.

1987: QUARRIER 10-12-7 T Thomson Jones (9-4) T Forster 12 ran

FORM APRIL PRINCE (11-5) 24l 5th to Wellfield (11-2) at Warwick (2m 4f, h'cap ch, £2188, good to firm, May 16, 10 ran).

DE PLUVINEL (11-7) 7¾l 5th to Columbus (11-7) at Sandown on his latest start where TURN BLUE (12-0) fell 13th (3m 118yd, £3889, good, Mar 11, 15 ran); previously (11-7) had been beaten 1½l by Quarrier in this race last year with OPTIMUM (11-7) 22l 4th, TURN BLUE (12-3) a distant 6th (£2604, good to soft, Mar 31, 12 ran).

HOT FEVER (12-4) ran on well when a ½l 2nd to Desert Fox (12-11) on seasonal reappearance here with OPTIMUM (12-4) 30½l 6th and COOLCOTS (12-4) back in 8th (3m 118yd, hunter ch, £1392, good, Mar 11, 11 ran).

COOLCOTS (12-5) 25l 4th to Nicky's Joy (11-12) at Huntingdon on penultimate start (3m, hunter ch, £537, good, Apr 20, 12 ran).

NEXT BEST (11-12) best judged on 2l 2nd to Fred Astaire (11-9) at Folkestone on penultimate start (2m 4f, hunter ch, £630, soft, Feb 25, 11 ran).

Selection: HOT FEVER

Guide to our in-line racecard

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 .... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F – fell. P – pulled up. U – unseated rider. B – brought down. S – slipped up. R – refused. D – disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; J if jumps, F if flat. (B – blinkers. V – visor. H – hood. E – Eyeshield. C – course winner. D – distance winner. CD – course and distance winner. BF – beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F – firm, good to firm, hard. G – good. S – soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.35 PIPER CHAMPAGNE ALANBROOKE MEMORIAL CHASE (Limited handicap: £5,889: 3m 118yd) (5 runners)

403	41P320	WESTERN SUNSET 13 (C,D,G,S) (S Sainsbury) T Forster 12-11-10	H Davies	98
404	1/2P-3PP	GALWAY BLAZE 48 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs R Formby) N Henderson 12-11-10	S Smith Eccles	88
405	330012	CASTLE WARDEN 17 (D,BF,F,G,S) (M Shone) J Edwards 11-11-3	T Morgan	● 99
406	001U03	MEMBERSON 21 (CD,F,G,S) (P Dufosee) P Dufosee 10-10-12	R Beggan	97
407	F31/P31	LUNEDALE 17 (CD,F,G) (Queen Mother) F Walwyn 10-10-1	K Mooney	95

BETTING: 9-4 Castle Warden, 3-1 Lunedale, 7-2 Western Sunset, 5-1 Memberson, 8-1 Galway Blaze.

1987: MEMBERSON 9-10-0 B Powell (9-1) P Dufosee 6 ran

FORM WESTERN SUNSET (11-4) 3l 2nd to Golden Friend (11-4) at Newbury on penultimate start (3m, £5099, heavy, Feb 13, 5 ran).

GALWAY BLAZE (10-10) 13l last of three to Desert Orchid (11-10) on Kempton reappearance (2m 4f, £7503, good to soft, Nov 18). Has disappointed twice since.

CASTLE WARDEN (11-8) a short head winner from Weight Problem (10-0) at Ludlow on penultimate start (3m, £2974, good, Mar 3, 6 ran).

MEMBERSON (10-0) won this race last year (3m 118yd, £5372, good to soft, Mar 31, 6 ran) by a length from WESTERN SUNSET (11-10); last time out (11-4) 23l 3rd to Sacred Path (11-2) at Warwick (3m 4l 180yd, £4240, good to soft, Mar 8, 7 ran).

LUNEDALE (10-4) ½l winner from CASTLE WARDEN (11-10) over course and distance latest start (£4542, good, Mar 12, 7 ran).

Selection: WESTERN SUNSET

4.10 ROYAL ORDNANCE HANDICAP CHASE (£3,720: 2m 18yd) (5 runners)

502	1P/12-F4	MIDNIGHT COUNT 13 (CD,S) (H Joel) J Gifford 8-11-10	Peter Hobbs	● 99
505	2344-31	KILBRITTAIN CASTLE 17 (CD,F,G,S) (W Whitbread) F Walwyn 12-11-0	K Mooney	70
506	1232P3	HIZ 10 (CD,G,S) (Mrs G McFerran) T Forster 10-10-11	H Davies	80
508	0P2400	FAR BRIDGE 89 (CD,F,G,S) (Duke of Atholl) G Balding 12-10-11	G Bradley	87
509	132211	ROYAL STAG 17 (CD,G,S) (Lady Harmsworth-Blunt) D Grissell 6-10-7	R Goldstein	83

BETTING: 5-4 Midnight Count, 5-2 Royal Stag, 6-1 Hiz, 13-2 Kilbrittain Castle, 8-1 Far Bridge.

1987: HAZY SUNSET 10-11-6 P Scudamore (8-1) F Winter 7 ran

FORM MIDNIGHT COUNT (12-0) 8½l 4th to Pearlyman (12-0) in the Champion Chase at the Cheltenham Festival (2m, £39636, heavy, Mar 16, 8 ran).
Last season MIDNIGHT COUNT (11-8) 2nd beaten 3l to Cavvies Clown (10-12), Gold Cup runner up, at Ascot (2m 4f, £6014, good, Dec 13, 5 ran).

KILBRITTAIN CASTLE (11-10) comfortable 7l winner from Grey Tornado (11-13) in an amateur event here last time (2m 18yd, £3061, good, Mar 12, 4 ran).

HIZ (11-10) last ran to form at Worcester in February (2m, £3096, heavy, Feb 17, 7 ran) when 3l 2nd to Pukka Major (11-4).

FAR BRIDGE (10-0) best effort this season an 8l 2nd to Long Engagement (10-12) at Ascot (2m, £6870, good to soft, Nov 21, 6 ran).

ROYAL STAG (11-7) a 6l win over Hypnosis (11-7) here (2m 18yd, £3785, good to soft, Mar 12, 6 ran) last time.

Selection: MIDNIGHT COUNT

4.40 RMC GROUP UBIQUE OPEN HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £1,559: 2m 4f 68yd) (14 runners)

601	F3412-2	BRIGHT OASSIS 31 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs K Bailey) K Bailey 12-12-6	Mrs T Bailey (7)	88
602	020131	MAYANNCOR 20 (D,G,S) (G Wragg) D Williams 10-12-6	G Wragg (7)	90
603	112FF3	KINGSWOOD KITCHENS 26 (F,G) (Mrs E Ludlow) Mrs E Ludlow 8-12-2	P Clarke (7)	70
604	F130-31	ROYAL JET 17 (D,F,G,S) (J Harley) J Harley 11-12-2	J Harley (7)	87
605	314/P-P0	SWINGING MOON 21 (F,S) (Miss G Jones) Miss G Jones 9-12-2	P Verling (4)	—
606	03P/42F-	BURN NOOKA 309 (D,F,G,S) (B Munro-Wilson) B Munro-Wilson 11-11-12	—	75
608	344R-0F	CHURCHES GREEN 22 (D,G,S) (S Tindall) S Tindall 9-11-12	Miss S Belcher (7)	66
609	F/FP0-1F	DRIVE ON JIMMY 22 (D,G,S) (R E A Bott Ltd) Mrs E Heath 10-11-12	P Harding-Jones (7)	● 99
610	4P02/03	GALILEO 21 (B,G,S) (Mrs L Taylor) Mrs L Taylor 13-11-12	Mrs L Taylor (7)	69
611	12F-222	GENTLE APPROACH 21 (D,BF,F,G,S) Mrs M Thompson 11-11-12	J Wrathall (4)	97
613	002/FP-0	RIBOT STAR 38 (F,G,S) (Mrs S Menzies) Mrs S Menzies 9-11-12	Mrs S Menzies (7)	—
614	0P032/U	WATER ROCK 22 (F,G,S) (P Doggrell) P Doggrell 13-11-12	P Doggrell (7)	—
615	0030-00	KING VIV 22 (D Marley) D Marley 8-11-8	C Willett (7)	—
618	1	SWIFT MELODY 7 (D,S) (H McCall) H McCall 7-11-7	S Mullins (7)	77

BETTING: 5-2 Drive On Jimmy, 4-1 Bright Oassis, 11-2 Royal Jet, 6-1 Gentle Approach, 7-1 Swift Melody, 10-1 Mayanncor, 12-1 Kingswood Kitchens, 14-1 Burn Nooka, 16-1 Galileo, 33-1 others.

1987: ROYAL JUDGEMENT 14-12-2 P Hacking (10-11 fav) Lady Rootes 11 ran

FORM MAYANNCOR (12-1) 2l winner from Daltmore (12-0) at Bangor (2m 4f, £680, good, Mar 9, 6 ran).

KINGSWOOD KITCHENS (12-7) 6l 3rd to Night Safe (11-12) at Ludlow (2m 4f, £630, good, Mar 3, 13 ran).

ROYAL JET (12-5) short head winner from Work Mate (11-11) at Doncaster last time (3m 122yd, £924, good to firm, Mar 12, 6 ran).

DRIVE ON JIMMY (11-7) a 15l winner from BRIGHT OASIS (12-1) at Doncaster on penultimate start (2m 4f, £1120, good, Feb 27, 12 ran).

GENTLE APPROACH (12-8) 6l 2nd to Le Bambino (12-0) at Warwick (2m 4f, £1170, good to soft, Mar 8, 9 ran) latest start with GALILEO (12-0) 10l 3rd and SWINGING MOON (12-0) a tailed off 7th.

SWIFT MELODY (11-13) difficult to assess on a 20l win from General Merchant (12-4) at Fontwell (2m 4f, £1142, soft, Mar 22, 5 ran).

Selection: DRIVE ON JIMMY

Course specialists

TRAINERS

	Winners	Runners	per cent
T Forster	11	47	23.4
N Henderson	11	61	18.0
J Gifford	27	153	17.6
F Walwyn	9	56	16.1
R Akehurst	4	25	16.0
J R Jenkins	7	56	12.5

JOCKEYS

	Winners	Rides	per cent
S Smith Eccles	19	73	26.0
R Rowe	20	114	17.5
R Dunwoody	14	84	16.7
H Davies	9	59	15.3
P Scudamore	12	89	13.5
G Bradley	3	28	10.7

SEDGEFIELD

Selections
By Mandarin

2.15 Maelkar. 2.45 Comedy Fair. 3.15 Met Officer. 3.45 Kevino. 4.15 Dream Academy. 4.45 Chipchase.

Going: good to soft

2.15 PETERLEE NOVICES HURDLE (£685: 2m 4f) (15 runners)

1	/0U1	LA MARGARITE 7 (S) D Wintle 8-11-7	S Keightley
2	0	BEL ARCTIC 3 (V) J Parkes 5-11-4	T Reed
3	R-P	CROSSETT CRUSADER 38 E Caine 8-11-4	—
6	P300	INTO THE GLEN 20 W A Stephenson 5-11-4	C Grant
7	-400	INTO THE MYSTIC 99 B McLean 6-11-4	M Hammond
9	0	LE FERMIER D'OR 18 T Cunningham 5-11-4	S Cunningham (7)
10	01	MAELKAR 18 (S) (D) J J O'Neill 4-11-4	M Dwyer
12		SURPRISE STAR P Blockley 5-11-4	P Niven
14	0P-F	CALMATA 31 Lady A Bowlby 7-10-13	Mr D Kinsella
16	00	CENTROCEAN 35 T Cunningham 5-10-13	A Merrigan (4)
19	04P4	LADY MANELLO 64 Mrs A Hamilton 5-10-13	B Storey
20	00	NIGHT FOX 18 P Blockley 6-10-13	W Smith (7)
22	000	SWORD BEACH 21 M H Easterby 4-10-10	L Wyer
23	00	KIRKBY DUM DEE 29 M Ellerby 4-10-5	R Garrity (7)
25		NAVOS 257F Miss L Siddall 4-10-5	A J Quinn (7)

BETTING: 1-2 Maelkar, 9-2 La Margarite, 8-1 Into The Glen, 12-1 Surprise Star, Lady Manello, 16-1 Sword Beach.

2.45 HAMSTERLEY NOVICES CHASE (£1,088: 2m 4f) (12)

1	241P	NOBLE MUSIC 4 (S) P Blockley 8-11-13	R Crank
5	000F	BOW HANDY MAN 3 (S) J Redfern 6-11-5	S Keightley
6		CALL ME MASTER J Wade 9-11-5	—
7	2240	COMEDY FAIR 43 (G,S) M H Easterby 8-11-5	L Wyer
8	PU4P	IMPERTAIN 13 T Cunningham 8-11-5	S Cunningham (7)
10	P034	LUMBER QUAY 18 A Mactaggart 10-11-5	Mr D Mactaggart (7)
11	FP00	MILLSTREAK 6 Mrs D Culham 8-11-5	A Orkney
12	0440	MULATA 6 (S) D Moffatt 9-11-5	K Teelan
14	F0FU	SPRITEBRAND 4 (F,G) M H Easterby 8-11-5	C Grant
16	/P-U	EDENBURT 35 Miss A Aitkin 10-11-0	Mr M Sowersby
17	-0P0	PRISTINE 32 N Chamberlain 7-11-0	A Merrigan (4)
18	PPPP	SAND KIT 27 Miss F Geddes 8-11-0	P Niven

BETTING: 7-4 Comedy Fair, 7-2 Noble Music, 4-1 Lumber Quay, 6-1 Spritebrand, 14-1 Edenburt 20-1 Impertain, Mulata.

3.15 SPENNYMOOR HANDICAP CHASE (£1,932: 3m 600yd) (6)

1	2-22	SILENT VALLEY 122 (G,S) I Jordon 15-11-10	B Storey
5	P104	MET OFFICER 39 (G,S) M Skinner 8-11-5	L Wyer
7	1032	LA BOEUF 20 (CD,F,S) D Lamb 12-10-11	J O'Gorman (7)
9	-340	TASAR 34 (F,G) W A Stephenson 7-10-9	C Grant
11	P-0P	NEWSTEAD 18 (CD,G,S) W Fairgrieve 10-10-1	J K Kinane
12	-200	SEALED OFFER 18 P Beaumont 10-10	P A Farrell (4)

Long handicap: Sealed Offer 9-12.

BETTING: 7-4 Silent Valley, 11-4 Met Officer, 7-2 La Boeuf, 8-1 Sealed Offer, 12-1 Tasar, 25-1 Newstead.

3.45 HETTON NOVICES CHASE (£1,088: 2m) (10)

2	U/PP	BRIGAN 15 J Haldane 10-11-4	B Storey
4	FF0-	GREY CARD 165F M Ellerby 7-11-4	R Garrity (7)
6	-P03	JODY'S BOY 4 (D,F) R Swiers 7-11-4	Mr S Swiers (7)
7	240F	JUST A HALF 12 (D,S) D McCain 6-11-4	N Doughty
8	P002	KEVINO 6 W A Stephenson 6-11-4	C Grant
10	004P	TACTICO 20 W Fairgrieve 6-11-4	J Hansen
11	0P/0	TOPORI 21 (D,G,S) D Wintle 9-11-4	S Keightley
12	4P44	ORBITAL MANOEUVERS 17 (D,F,G,S) P Blockley 7-10-13	R Crank
14	00P0	JENIFER BROWNING 20 J Swiers 5-10-5	A Orkney
15	000P	MADISON GIRL 20 (D,F) M W Easterby 5-10-5	M Dwyer

BETTING: 11-4 Kevino, 4-1 Jody's Boy, 5-1 Tactico, 8-1 Grey Card, Topori, 12-1 Oribtal Manoeuvers, 14-1 Just A Half.

4.15 HASWELL NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£685: 2m) (8)

1	4044	AUGUST 21 (CD,F) Denys Smith 7-12-0	C Grant
4	-443	DUKE OF MALA 149 J J O'Neill 5-11-9	L Wyer
5	2002	BOUTZDAROFF 20 (BF) Jimmy Fitzgerald 6-11-4	M Dwyer
7	020	CONNAUGHT CARD 94 M Ellerby 6-10-9	R Garrity (7)
8	0020	DREAM ACADEMY 74 T Caldwell 5-10-6	P Caldwell
14	0000	THE BRAZILIAN 20 E Alston 4-10-0	M Hammond
15	0000	HABAT'S MELODY 6 Mrs D Culham 7-10-0	A Orkney
17	P0P0	SPRING GARDEN 73 N Chamberlain 5-10-0	P Niven

Long handicap: Habat's Melody 9-13, Spring Garden 9-12.

BETTING: 13-8 Boutzdaroff, 9-2 August, 4-1 Duke Of Mala, 9-1 Dream Academy, 12-1 Connaught Card, 25-1 The Brazilian.

4.45 WITTON HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,242: 3m 600yd) (14)

1	41P-	SOME MACHINE 414 (CD,G) Jimmy Fitzgerald 9-11-11	M Dwyer
4	2033	FAIR BAVARD 8 (D,C,S) N Bradley 8-11-4	A Charlton (7)
5	2000	KNIGHT'S HEIR 25 (G,S) O Brennan 7-10-12	M Brennan
6	001P	HUBBARDS LODGE 46 (S) W Reed 5-10-10	T Reed
7	3321	CHIPCHASE 21 (C,F,G,S) B Wilkinson 8-10-8	M Hammond
10	2833	ECHO BEACH 39 Denys Smith 7-10-4	D Crossman (7)
11	0400	HIGH OFFICE 78 W A Stephenson 6-10-3	C Grant
12	0P-0	WIL-TOT 39 (B,F,S) J Norton 11-10-3	N Smith (7)
13	0340	DOUGHTY REBEL 73 (C,F,S) J J O'Neill 7-10-2	L Wyer
14	0004	DALTON DANDY 3 V Hall 6-10-0	A Orkney
20	0000	CAROUSEL CROSSETT 4 E Caine 7-10-0	—
21	0000	CHEEKY PIGEON 17 R Barr 6-10-0	T P White (7)
22	0040	THE FINK SISTERS 27 T Cunningham 5-10-0	S Cunningham (7)
23	-000	NOT EASY 88 (G,S) W A Stephenson 8-10-0	J O'Gorman (7)

Long handicap: Carousel Crossett 9-2, Cheeky Pigeon 9-2, The Fink Sisters 9-1, Not Easy 8-13.

BETTING: 11-4 Chipchase, 3-1 Some Machine, 7-2 Echo Beach, 6-1 Fair Bavard, 12-1 Knight's Heir.

Course specialist

TRAINERS: J Haldane, 7 winners from 33 runners, 21.2%; Jimmy Fitzgerald, 8 from 38, 21.1%; Mrs G Reveley, 12 from 69, 17.4%; Denys Smith, 22 from 143, 15.4%; W A Stephenson, 33 from 230, 14.3%; R Swiers, 3 from 24, 12.5%.

JOCKEYS: A J Quinn, 3 winners from 5 rides, 60.0%; A Merrigan, 8 from 35, 22.9%; M Hammond, 11 from 50, 22.0%; M Dwyer, 11 from 55, 20.0%; C Grant, 32 from 169, 18.9%; L Wyer, 5 from 30, 16.7%.

AYR

Selections

By Mandarin

2.00 Asturias.
2.30 Mizaj.
3.00 Gunner Mac.
3.30 Meine Vonne Lady.
4.00 Mubdi.
4.30 Swing Lucky.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.00 —
2.30 QANNAAS (nap).
3.00 Old Hubert.
3.30 Rangers Lad.
4.00 —
4.30 Pampered Dream.

By Michael Seely
2.00 Asturias. 3.00 Gunner Mac.
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.00 ASTURIAS.

Going: heavy (round course); soft (straight course) Draw: no significant advantage

2.0 CASTLEHILL APPRENTICE HANDICAP (£1,301: 1m 2f) (12 runners)

2	(7)	0000-	BRODIE 53J (Mrs M Urquart) C Booth 4-9-10	P Harte	—
6	(1)	422431-	TREYARNON 250 (F,S) (Lt-Col W Monteith) P Monteith 6-9-6	P Burke	80
8	(11)	00/000-1	ASTURIAS 5 (S) (Mrs A Dawson) J Jefferson 5-9-5 (5ex)	M Lynch	● 99
9	(3)	000000/	WE'LL MEET AGAIN 17J (F,S) (R Gibbons) R Allan 11-9-3	J Adams	—
10	(6)	300003-	QUICK DANCER 55J (J Wilson) J S Wilson 5-9-3	T Sprake	82
11	(8)	000400-	IN A SPIN 155 (G) (R Hebb) M Brittain 4-9-2	A Munro	80
12	(9)	30/000-4	SPACE TROOPER 5 (C,D,F) (J Turney) T Fairhurst 5-9-2	F Perrett	89
13	(12)	100000/	MIGHTY SUPREMO 631 (CD,G) (J Mitchell) N Tinkler 7-9-0	Julie Bowker	—
14	(5)	003400-	PATHERO 82J (H Witton) N Bycroft 4-8-13	P Bernard	80
15	(4)	0/8000-0	MRS MAINWARING 5 (A Midani) S Norton 5-8-9	J Murray	—
16	(2)	008004-	NEEDWOOD NYMPH 11J (Needwood Turf Accountants) B Morgan 4-8-4	S Wood	86
17	(10)	404400-	MURILLO 169 (B,D,G,S) (F Carr) F Carr 12-8-3	J Carr	85

BETTING: 13-8 Asturias, 4-1 In A Spin, 11-2 Treyarnon, 15-2 Space Trooper, 8-1 Quick Dancer, 9-1 Murillo, 12-1 Pathero, 14-1 others.

1987: JUST THE TICKET 4-7-7 P Burke (9-1) C Booth 5 ran

2.30 AUCHANS MAIDEN STAKES (£1,418: 1m) (9 runners)

2	(4)	0-	LE GUERRIER 71J (Mrs H Wells) P Daly 4-9-9	M Fry	—
3	(7)	02-	MIZAJ 34J (W Marshall) G M Moore 4-9-9	R Cochrane	89
5	(1)	2/3002-	QANNAAS 154 (Hamdan Al-Maktoum) H Thomson Jones 4-9-9	R Hills	● 99
7	(3)	0/04000-	ACT OF TREASON 237 (R Bowler) M Brittain 4-9-6	M Wigham	70
9	(8)	30300-	CAMDEN KNIGHT 175 (D Pickles) N Bycroft 3-8-5	M Birch	98
10	(5)	40-	FIGHTING GORYTUS 221 (Mrs S Nickerson) C Booth 3-8-5	K Hodgson	94
11	(9)	40-	FLATTERING NEWS 179 (Ahmed Salman) S Norton 3-8-2	J Lowe	86
12	(6)		JACKANDORA (B Swinhoe) A Brown 3-8-2	L Charnock	—
13	(2)	0-	PICHON 244 (B Norman) E Alston 3-8-2	G Duffield	—

BETTING: 9-4 Camden Knight, 100-30 Fighting Gorytus, 9-2 Qannaas, 6-1 Flattering News, 9-1 Mizaj, 12-1 Act of Treason, 16-1 Pichon, 25-1 Jackandora, Le Guerrier.

1987: WINDMEDE 3-8-5 K Darley (7-2) M Brittain 7 ran

3.0 COODHAM HANDICAP (£2,162: 1m 5f) (9 runners)

2	(4)	202000-	LULLABY BABY 15J (F,S) (Full Circle plc) N Tinkler 4-9-10	Kim Tinkler	87
5	(7)	13100-3	MINIZEN LAD 5 (D,G,S) (Minizen Ltd plc) M Brittain 4-8-5	M Wigham	87i
6	(8)	00/002-0	VICKSTOWN 5 (G) (Home and Trade Ltd) B Morgan 6-9-4	R Cochrane	80i
7	(2)	00/003-0	OLD HUBERT 5 (B,CD,F,G,S) (T Ramsden) A Bailey 7-9-3	P Bloomfield	85
9	(6)	100011-	GUNNER MAC 17J (CD,S) (F McHale) N Bycroft 5-8-12	L Charnock	84
10	(9)	40040-1	THE FOOTMAN 5 (G,S) (R Reynolds) R Stubbs 6-8-11	D Nicholls	● 99
15	(1)	600000-	SILK THREAD 31J (G Tufts) R Whitaker 5-8-7	D McKeown	80
16	(3)	00004-	PIT PONY 45J (H Beattie) J S Wilson 4-8-2	G Duffield	—
18	(5)	044000/	SPECIAL SETTLEMENT 20J (B,D,F) (T Beaty) R Allan 7-7-7	P Hill	—

Long handicap: Special Settlement 7-5.

BETTING: 13-8 The Footman, 7-2 Minizen Lad, 4-1 Old Hubert, 6-1 Gunner Mac, 8-1 Lullaby Baby, 12-1 Vickstown, 14-1 others.

1987: GUNNER MAC 4-7-8 J Lowe (16-1) N Bycroft 9 ran

3.30 HILLHOUSE MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £1,509: 7f) (10 runners)

5	(3)	3420040-	ORDER PAPER 183 (P Muldoon) S Muldoon 9-0	J H Brown	● 99
6	(7)	0-	PROFILIC 255 (J Goodman) Capt J Wilson 9-0	K Darley	—
7	(5)	000000-	PUNO 173 (C Barber-Lomax) T Fairhurst 9-0	S Whitworth	80
8	(4)		RANGERS LAD (E Eldin) E Eldin 9-0	A Mackay	—
10	(6)	0000-	SWISS BALL 197 (F Carr) F Carr 9-0	S Morris	73
11	(8)	234003-	THOMAS LENG 145 (V) (M Brittain) M Brittain 9-0	M Wigham	90
13	(10)	33-	DECOY EXPRESS 169 (Oaklea Bloodstock) E Alston 8-11	G Duffield	86
14	(9)	0240-	MEINE VONNE LADY 153 (B Scowcroft) J Berry 8-11	J Carroll (5)	98
15	(1)	0420-	MISLEAT 157 (D Cooper) Mrs N Macauley 8-11	A Culhane (5)	89
16	(2)	0-	RUNNING FORTUNE 182 (Oaklea Bloodstock) E Alston 8-11	K Fallon (5)	—

BETTING: 5-2 Meine Vonne Lady, 100-30 Thomas Leng, 9-2 Order Paper, 5-1 Decoy Express, 8-1 Misleat, 10-1 Profilic, 14-1 others.

1987: JUST CLASS 9-11 J Lowe (100-30) S Norton 5 ran

4.0 LAMLASH SELLING STAKES (£869: 6f) (11 runners)

1	(5)	020040-	MUBDI 67J (B,F) (Full Circle plc) N Tinkler 4-9-10	Kim Tinkler	● 99
3	(8)	330310-	ROSE LOUBET 82J (B,G) (Miss C Warwick) W Pearce 4-9-1	K Hodgson	77
5	(11)	004340-	JEFF HARRIS 20J (Lt-Col W Monteith) P Monteith 4-8-13	P Burke (7)	89
7	(3)	001000-	ARROGANZA 151 (F,S) (Mrs M Pollard-Gill) R Whitaker 3-8-0	A Culhane (5)	89
9	(4)	112000-	INSTATE 185 (D,G,S) (J Lloyd) J Berry 3-8-0	J Carroll (5)	86
12	(6)	004-	JAKAHE BELL 253 (T Lifton) J Berry 3-7-12	Dana Mellor (5)	79
13	(7)	000-	SNOWY'S BOY 154 (B) (Fir Trading Ltd) J Wainwright 3-7-12	K Darley	—
14	(1)	000-	ZIMMERMAN 223 (Mrs J Ramsden) Mrs J Ramsden 3-7-12	S Buckton	—
16	(9)	00-	FLOTENA 201 (M Hill) D Chapman 3-7-9	A Proud	—
17	(2)	34040-	MARINA GRANDE 175 (T Barron) T Barron 3-7-9	S Wood (7)	85
18	(10)	200000-	STORM RUNNER 187 (R Deblin) P Charlton 3-7-9	J Lowe	98

BETTING: 5-2 Storm Runner, 7-2 Mubdi, 5-1 Marina Grande, 13-2 Arroganza, 7-1 Instate, 8-1 Jeff Harris, 12-1 Jakahe Bell, 14-1 others.

1987: NOT SO SILLY 3-7-5 D White (33-1) T Barron 11 ran

4.30 SMITHSTONE HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £1,646: 5f) (9 runners)

1	(3)	02100-0	SWING LUCKY 5 (D,S) (Mrs L Ward) K Ivory 9-7	R Cochrane	90
2	(2)	001391-	GOLDEN FANTASY 150 (G,S) (T Wong) M Brittain 9-6	M Wigham	● 99
4	(5)	030443-	PAMPERED DREAM 144 (R Cox) A Bailey 9-1	P Bloomfield	92
6	(7)	100031-	DONOVAN ROSE 153 (D,F,G) (P Savill) J Berry 9-0	Dana Mellor (5)	92
8	(4)	000300-	KARLA'S STAR 144 (D,F,S) (J Burgess) G M Moore 8-9	S Wood (7)	93
11	(8)	000-	BALIDARIUS 287 (Oaklea Bloodstock Ltd) E Alston 8-2	G Duffield	—
12	(1)	000000-	SHELLY'S FOLLY 192 (J Turney) T Fairhurst 7-11	K Darley	88
14	(6)	000030-	KABCAST 196 (D Chapman) D Chapman 7-7	A Proud	93
16	(9)	400006-	FOOL TO CRY 185 (P Barratt) B Morgan 7-7	L Charnock	97

Long handicap: Fool To Cry 7-5.

BETTING: 3-1 Pampered Dream, 4-1 Golden Fantasy, 11-2 Fool To Cry, 7-1 Karla's Star, 8-1 Donovan Rose, 9-1 Swing Lucky, 12-1 Kabcast, 16-1 Shelly's Folly, 20-1 Balidarius.

1987: PASHMINA 8-9 K Hodgson (5-2 fav) T Fairhurst 7 ran

Course specialists

TRAINERS

	Winners	Runners	Per cent
J Jefferson	4	8	50.0
S Norton	8	27	29.6
C Booth	5	19	26.3
T Barron	3	15	20.0
N Bycroft	7	42	16.7
N Tinkler	4	31	12.9

JOCKEYS

	Winners	Rides	Per cent
K Hodgson	5	19	26.3
M Birch	11	48	22.9
G Duffield	10	50	20.0
K Darley	10	55	18.2
J Carroll	3	18	16.7
D Nicholls	11	74	14.9

(Not including yesterday's results)

Results from yesterday's four meetings

Ayr

Going: heavy (round course); soft (straight). All races flag start.

2.0 (5f) 1, KAFU LADY (P Bloomfield, 11-4 fav; Our Newmarket Correspondent's nap); 2, Agapae (Kim Tinkler, 11-2); 3, Northern Commander (J Carroll, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 4 Parsian Monarch (6th), 11-2 Cloud Base (5th), 10 Jean Duke's Lad (4th), 14 Tracey's Ladd. 7 ran. NR: Plumage. 1½l, 5l, 4l, 2l, 4l. A Bailey at Newmarket. Tote: £4.50; £2.10, £3.20. DF: £7.00. CSF: £16.58. 1min 10.81sec.

2.30 (6f) 1, DRAG ARTIST (M Wigham, 11-4); 2, Wallow Wine (R Cochrane, 7-2); 3, Marybee (A Culhane, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 2 fav Magna Travaille (4th), 8 Floating Note (5th). 5 ran. ½l, 8l, 2½l, 4l. M Brittain at Warthill. DF: £4.70. CSF: £10.78. 1min 28.04sec.

3.0 (8f) 1, RUNAWAY (M Birch, 10-1); 2, Time For Joy (Dana Mellor, 9-1); 3, Taranga (R Cochrane, 7-2 fav). ALSO RAN: 4 Shanouska (5th), 6 Eastbrook (4th), 10 Stephen's Song, 12 So Careful, 14 Minizen Lass, Rainbow Trout (5th), 16 Pashmina, Our Krystal. 11 ran. ¾l, 2l, sh hd, 3l, 2½l. C Tinkler at Malton. Tote: £7.10; £3.00, £2.50, £1.20. DF: £45.70. CSF: £86.36. Tricast: £343.73. 1min 25.44sec.

3.30 (1m) 1, O I OYSTON (J Carroll, 5-1); 2, Glenderry (M Fry, 10-1); 3, Jaldaire (Kim Tinkler, 9-2 fav). ALSO RAN: 11-2 U-Bix Copy (6th), Gunner's Row, 10 Perfect Stranger, 16 Meedal, 20 Enbre, Trade High (5th), Dancing Tom, Stanford Boy, Buzzards Maid (4th), 33 Ikraam, Avraeas. 14 ran. NR: Design Wise. 3l, 1½l, 6l, 6l, hd. J Berry at Cockerham. Tote: £5.10; £1.30, £2.30, £1.40. DF: £46.90. CSF: £48.98. Tricast £217.82. 1min 57.03sec. No bid.

4.0 (1m 3f) 1, EJAY HAITCH (D Nicholls, Evens fav); 2, Ballymore Park (S Wood, 9-1); 3, Northgate Dancer (M Wigham, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Poleen Paddy (ur), 10 Calton Colleen (5th), 12 Tough Cookie (4th). 6 ran. 4l, 20l, 25l, 8l. H Wharton at Middleham. Tote £1.90; £1.30, £5.10. DF: £9.50. CSF £9.22. 2min 44.85sec.

4.30 (1m 2f) 1, ILKOMO (A Culhane, 2-1 fav); 2, Weston Mary (D Nicholls, 9-2); 3, Saturn Moon (T Sprake, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 5 One For The Pot (5th), Shoot The Pot (6th), 14 Whisky Trail (4th). 6 ran. NR: Good Medicine. 5l, 5l, 1l, 10l, dist. R Hollinshead at Upper Longdon. Tote: £2.30; £1.10, £3.00. DF: £9.40. CSF: 10.23. 2min 34.96sec.

Placepot: £26.20

Folkestone

Going: soft

1.45 (5f) 1, HOLSTER (R Guest, 33-1); 2, The Oil Baron (B Rouse, 11-4 fav); 3, Miami Banker (N Adams, 5-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Domelexis (5th), Check The Gate, 10 Llangwarren, The Motcombe Oak (6th), 12 Fort Regent (4th), 16 Roheryn. 9 ran. 2½l, 2l, 1l, 2l, 1½l. D Morley at Newmarket. Tote: £22.80; £5.10, £1.60, £1.20. DF: £58.10. CSF: £110.01.

2.15 (1m 2f) 1, EXHAUST MAN (W Newnes, 6-1); 2, Cosmic Flight (A McGlone, 6-1); 3, Lady Lucina (A Clark, 7-2 jt-fav). ALSO RAN: 7-2 jt-fav Tom Forrester, 9 By Chance, 11 Mane Baby (6th), 14 Carpet Capers, Glengar, Nore Hill (5th), 20 Doubler (4th), September Snap, 25 Restino, Supercoombe, 33 Verbier, The Sportsman. 15 ran. 3l, nk, 2l, ½l, 4l. Miss B Sanders at Epsom. Tote: £10.60; £2.60, £2.20, £1.70. DF: £18.50. CSF: £42.97. Tricast: £138.37. No bid.

2.45 (1m 4f) 1, RAAHIN (Pat Eddery, 4-1); 2, Lesbet (N Adams, 25-1); 3, Queens Romance (L Jones, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 fav Snowball David (6th), 11-4 Peer Prince, 6 Fetcham Park, 14 Benbern, 16 Audrina (4th), 20 Champagne Run (5th), 25 Merchant's Dream. 10 ran. NR: Bravo Star. ½l, ¾l, 5l, 2l, 10l. Mrs L Piggott at Newmarket. Tote: £3.70; £1.10, £8.90, £6.70. DF: £55.20. CSF: £79.70. Tricast: £1,599.30.

3.15 (5f) 1, LONELY STREET (N Adams, 11-2); 2, Ridgicut (G Bardwell, 6-1); 3, Domino Rose (B Rouse, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 5 fav The Burden, 6 Batchworth Dancer (5th), 8 Royal Bear (6th), Street Level, 10 Lady Cara, 14 Fourth Protocol, Samleon (4th), 16 Veronica's Friend, 20 Galaxy Path, Kelly's Royale, 25 Sudden Impact, Sharad. 15 ran. sh hd, 1l, nk, nk, ¾l. P Arthur at Aston Tirold. Tote: £6.20; £1.10, £4.10, £2.30. DF: £115.00. CSF: £41.11. Tricast £254.93. After stewards' enquiry, result stood.

3.45 (6f) 1, SLEEPLINE FANTASY (P Cook, 11-4); 2, Fact Finder (J Reid, 15-2); 3, Ration Of Passion (D McKay, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 15-8 fav Irnan, 8 Shayad, 9 Valiant Saint (4th), 10 Mother Country, 14 Effervescent (5th), 20 Daring Ditty, Lucy's Luck, Tender Tiff, 25 Rob de Ville, Spare Us All (6th), 33 Forget The Blues, May Pin, 50 Viva Ronda, Cut Up Rough, Double Talk, Madame Flora, Count Me Out. 20 ran. ½l, 2l, 5l, 2½l, 2l. K Brassey at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £4.20; £2.50, £3.60, £3.50. DF: £18.50. CSF £27.58.

4.15 (1m 4f) 1, CALABRESE (B Rouse, 11-8 fav); 2, Brave Crusader (J Reid, 15-2); 3, Bravo Star (Pat Eddery, 5-2). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Beau Echarpe (4th), 15-2 Gissmo, 8 Rainbow Brite (5th), 20 Jamaica George (5th). 7 ran. 1½l, 20l, 15l, 7l, 2l. D Morley at Newmarket. Tote: £2.00; £2.00, £3.10. DF: £22.90. CSF: £13.12.

Placepot: £332.30

Hereford

Going: good to soft

2.15 (2m hdle) 1, Trusty Friend (D Tegg, 33-1); 2, Favourite Guest (10-11 fav); 3, Garda's Gold (10-1). 17 ran. ½l, 1½l. J Edwards. Tote: £17.10; £3.50, £1.30, £2.30. DF: £47.70. CSF: £59.21.

2.45 (2m ch) 1, Candicote Boy (R Dunwoody, 7-4 fav); 2, Mandrake Shuttle (6-1); 3, Shropshire Lad (14-1). 14 ran. 15l, 3l. D Nicholson. Tote: £2.40; £1.30, £2.20, £5.40. DF: £4.40. CSF: £11.62. Tricast: £95.11.

3.15 (2m 3f ch) 1, Mr Seagull (A Jones, 13-2); 2, Romerhol (5-1); 3, My Purple Prose (9-1). Mountain Crash 85-40 fav. 13 ran. 1l, 6l. Mrs S Hembrow. Tote: £7.90; £2.50, £1.60, £3.30. CSF: £33.75.

3.45 (3m 1f ch) 1, Spider's Well (P Nicholls, 11-2); 2, Border Lad (7-2); 3, Rig Steel (11-4 fav). 9 ran. 5l, 10l. D Barons. Tote: £6.70; £2.80, £2.60, £1.10. DF: £14.60. CSF £21.94. Tricast £50.45.

4.15 (2m hdle) 1, True Poet (M Bowlby, 10-1); 2, The Big Wheel (50-1); 3, Bwani Kali (20-1). Aksandy, Father Paddy, Lasting Hope 9-2 jt favs. 16 ran. NR: Tudor-Rag. 4l, 4l. N Henderson. Tote: £10.00; £3.10, £7.20, £6.80. DF: £4.60 — first or second with any other horse. CSF: £360.11.

4.45 (2m 3f hdle) 1, Smithy Bear (W Humphreys, 3-1 fav); 2, True Spartan (6-1); 3, Tanderagee (16-1); 4, Troy Fair (16-1). 22 ran. 4l, 6l. R Dickin. Tote: £5.80; £1.90, £2.00, £3.50, £3.80. DF: £6.90. CSF: £21.18. Tricast: £230.63.

Placepot: £439.20

Hexham

Going: soft (heavy patches)

2.0 (2m hdle) 1, Bengairn (P Tuck, 7-2); 2, Skinnhill (Evens fav); 3, Hitchenstown (7-2). 9 ran. sh hd, 8l. G W Richards. Tote: £6.60; £1.70, £1.60, £1.70. DF: £3.40. CSF: £6.90. Skinnhill finished first, after a stewards inquiry the placing were reversed.

2.30 (3m ch) 1, Flying Ace (Miss D Calder, 8-13 fav); 2, Nobbanokker (7-4); 3, Moons Quadrille (6-1). 4 ran. 4, dist. A Calder. Tote: £1.50. DF: £1.50. CSF: £2.07.

3.0 (2m hdle(1, Stockaign (C Smith, 12-1); 2, Queen's Man (2-1 fav); 3, Pitsbalou (12-1). 14 ran. NR: Vitingo. ½l, 1l. B Key. Tote: £6.30; £1.90, £1.70, £3.60. DF: £40.20. CSF: £38.84. Tricast: £302.70.

3.30 (2m 4f ch) 1, RINUS (P Tuck, 6-4 fav); 2, Mr Perfect (9-2); 3, Mighty Mark (4-1). 5 ran. NR: Impertain. 2l, 4l. G Richards. Tote: £2.60; £1.00, £3.80. DF: £2.80. CSF: £8.52.

4.0 (3m ch) 1, Rivermoot (A Merrigan, 3-1); 2, Laid Back (4-1); 3, Almondbury (11-8 fav). hd, 2l. W A Stephenson. Tote: £4.00; £2.10, £1.70, £1.90. DF: £4.80. CSF: £15.37.

4.30 (2m hdle) 1, Foresters Arms (K Doolan, 11-4); 2, Irish Red (100-30); 3, Crash Market (7-4 fav). 8 ran. hd, 8l. C Parker. Tote: £3.90; £4.40, £1.40, £1.00. DF: £3.10. CSF: £11.84.

Placepot: £8.20.

Blinkered first time

Ayr: 3.0 Old Hubert. 4.0: Mubdi.

BOXING: A NOTED JUDGE OF THE FAIR SEX WILL BE JUDGED BY ONE OF THEM AS HE ATTEMPTS TO REGAIN HIS WORLD TITLE FROM A RESILIENT MEXICAN

Break point for Honeyghan

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

The chances of Lloyd Honeyghan regaining his world welterweight title from Jorge Vaca, of Mexico, at Wembley tonight, depends on his hands. It seems, now that his mental problems appear to have cleared, that only a recurrence of his hand injuries during the contest can frustrate him. Though that is not quite how Vaca sees it. He has promised to knock Honeyghan out – by the seventh.

Honeyghan, suffering from chipped knuckles and complaining of arthritis, had been in so much trouble with the hands before the previous contest that, after consulting an American specialist, he had wanted to call off the title defence against Vaca last October. But now, from his fighting talk and reports of solid sparring in the gym, all seems to be well.

However, the importance of his hand injuries has not been missed by the Mexicans for Vaca's lawyer, Francisco Bazan, the only member of his five-man party to speak English, said: "He clearly does not punch correctly and hurts his hand on the bone parts."

It would not be surprising, therefore, to see Vaca putting his head to better use than Honeyghan did last time, when an accidental butt cost him his title. The head can be a useful weapon against those who rely on a heavy punch, as Thomas Hearns found to his cost against Marvin Hagler.

It will be interesting to see whether Honeyghan takes the trouble to box or goes straight in on a slam-bang-wallop course. Honeyghan used to be a good behind-the-jab boxer with neat if sometimes flashy footwork, but ever since beating Donald Curry by two-handed aggression he has gone all out from the first bell. While looking spectacular against "shot" fighters like Johnny Bumphus and Gene Hatcher, his tactics did not work against Maurice Blocker and he almost lost the title then.

The Mexican, who wants to prove to the world that he is not a "one fight champion" said yesterday, through Bazan: "I will knock Honeyghan out by the seventh round."

Recalling Honeyghan's jibes – "I'm going to beat this man up, I'm not joking. . .If I can't beat him I might as well pack it in" – Bazan commented: "In Mexico we never underestimate a boxer. We have a saying 'beware, a man may be small outside the ring but inside he is a giant.'" The threat, coming from a member *of a group that manages Julio* Chavez, pound-for-pound the greatest boxer in the world today, should be, taken seriously.

Vaca is tired of hearing that he was the beneficiary of a windfall: that Honeyghan "gave" his title away last October because he had hand *and mental troubles. "That is* an excuse he gave the media. Excuses don't count. What matters is stamina and preparation," Bazan said.

"Vaca is going to pressure Honeyghan from the first round, searching for the knockout. It does not matter if Honeyghan is going to do the same. It will be a dog fight. Vaca has taken Honeyghan's best punches and knows he can't hurt him."

Bazan said that Vaca had watched Honeyghan on tape and had come to the conclusion that as an attacking fighter he has no defence. Vaca knows that he hurt Honeyghan several times in *their last meeting* and was never hurt himself. He staggered Honeyghan in the third round with a left hook and in the following round with another left. At the time of the stoppage he believed that he was well in front.

"Honeyghan does not know how to defend. His body is open when he is throwing punches. That is why Jorge will give him no peace."

The Mexican, who last time came only with a manager and a trainer, now has a group of five experts with him, including a doctor who is a leading expert on sports medicine. That is how seriously the Mexicans are taking this defence.

Tale of the tape

Honeyghan		Vaca
26	Age	27
10st 7lb	Weight	10st 7lb
5ft 8½in	Height	5ft 9in
68in	Reach	69in
14in	Neck	14½in
	Chest	
38in	Normal	38in
40in	Expanded	40in
14in	Biceps	13½in
11in	Forearm	12in
6½in	Wrist	6in
10½in	Fist	11in
30in	Waist	30in
18in	Thigh	18in
15in	Calf	14½in

RECORDS

Honeyghan: 31 wins, 1 defeat.

Vaca: 49 wins, 5 defeats, 1 draw.

Appropriate occasion to catch a lady's eye

Lloyd Honeyghan, who has a self-confessed weakness for the fairer sex, could find his boxing career at the mercy of a lady tonight. Carol Castellano, a 55-year-old New Yorker, will become the first woman to judge a world title fight in Britain at Wembley, where *it could take* just a few strokes of her pen to consign Honeyghan to the history books.

The Bermondsey man has vowed to quit the ring if he cannot win back his World Boxing Council welterweight title from Jorge Vaca of Mexico. So if, as at their first meeting, the fight goes to the three judges, Castellano's role will be crucial.

She said yesterday: "You're always conscious that any decision you make could mean the end of a career, but you have to remain totally impartial and give 100% concentration on judging the fight as you see it. You might need brawn in the ring but you need brains to call a fight correctly."

Honeyghan can be safe in the knowledge that his fate is, indeed, in capable hands. Among the handful of women judges in the United States, Castellano is acknowledged to be the best, having officiated at 30 world title fights and some 2,000 professional bouts in all.

Seeing her in her place at the ringside will certainly be a novelty at a British promotion, but not so in America, where she is a valued member of the boxing community. "There's never been any sexism. In fact, they all made quite a fuss of me to start with," she said.

She resents those who feel there is no place in boxing for the gentle sex. "Women go to war, don't they? That is a lot worse than just watching two young men fighting in a controlled situation. But I draw the line at women actually boxing. I once refereed an all-female bout in New York – not only was it terrible, it was also repulsive."

Her interest in boxing began well over a quarter of a century ago when she met Tony Castellano, a menswear buyer, who was also one of the finest boxing judges in America. "I had never even been to a show when I met Tony. But once I went to my first fight, that was it, I was hooked."

Now married for 26 years, the couple are unique – the only husband and wife team both to have judged professional boxing. Tony has officiated at 79 world title contests and at some 5,000 professional contests all told, while his wife has sat in judgement on champions such as Sugar Ray Leonard and Michael Spinks and still holds down a full-time job as a personnel officer for a watch manufacturer.

She has had to give hefty slaps to photographers for obscuring her vision at ringside and she knows the feeling of being bad-mouthed for giving an unpopular decision.

"That has never worried me. If you give an unpopular decision there will always be some bad feeling. But people don't treat me as a woman, they treat me as a competent judge – and that's how I like it."

RUGBY UNION

Bowling gets tour spot in a surprise move by Wales selectors

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

The Welsh selectors retained their capacity for springing surprises *on even the most wary* when their 26-strong party to tour New Zealand included Steve Bowling at full back. He is yet another converted stand-off half and, at 21, is in only his first season with Llanelli.

Bowling, from Pontarddulais, moved from that position after the advent to Llanelli of Jonathan Davies and worked his way via wing and centre to full back. Now he will, presumably, be No. 2 to Clement when Wales leave on May 10.

Bowling, a quality controller in Ammanford, was stunned: "I had absolutely no idea I was in the running for selection until Sunday when I was sounded out about my availability to tour. I'd never given it a moment's thought as there seemed to be plenty of good *full* backs in Wales. I still can't believe it but I'm delighted and determined to produce my best for Wales.

"When you are surrounded by quality players, all determined to play an open running game, it's easier to impress. I feel I've improved steadily all season and the move to full back has suited me. Everybody has encouraged me to play my natural attacking game and it seems to have paid off.

"I had one of my best games against Aberavon and I suppose. I must have caught the selectors' eyes. Everything seems to be happening at once. A cup final against Neath and a summer tour of New Zealand. It hasn't sunk in yet."

Yet the selectors have remained true to an established theme. Given their decisions over the season there are no surprises in the backs; in the forwards a vacancy has been left for confirmation, probably a lock/No. 8 who could be Mark Jones (Neath) or an out-and-out lock such as Moseley (Pontypool) or Kawulok (Bridgend), both of whom have trained with the Welsh squad this season.

Once Thorburn, the Neath full back, made himself unavailable because he is changing jobs (joining Hadley, the Cardiff wing), the selectors always faced a difficult decision. The junior full back in the trial in January was Mason (Pontypridd), but he *has been unable to establish his* credentials while Rayer (Cardiff) suffered a badly dislocated elbow.

Clearly it is believed that Bowling will lend the same impetus to an exciting attack that Clement was able to do in his one international, against England at Twickenham. Yet it is hard not to believe that their lack of experience will be exposed by New Zealanders whose ability to research, or create, weak points in their opponents is unparallelled.

The party includes six uncapped players: apart from Bowling, Carwyn Davies (Llanelli), Hall (Bridgend) and Griffiths (Llanelli) are in the backs, Bryant (Bridgend) and Fauvell (Aberavon) in the forwards. Fauvell has been the outstanding No. 8 in Wales since Christmas and earns his reward after a long absence through injury.

He was chosen for the 1986 party which toured the South Seas but was then injured. Now he supplants experienced players such as Phil Davies (Llanelli) and Jones, capped last season against Scotland. Bryant had an outstanding trial and has played consistently for his club.

Carwyn Davies has been the prime beneficiary of Llanelli's exciting back play, with 36 tries this season, while Griffiths, remains No. 2 to Robert Jones, despite the claims advanced on behalf of Bishop (Pontypool) at scrum half. I imagine the task of the selectors was made that much easier by Saturday's cup results, when Llanelli won, Griffiths scoring two tries, and *Pontypool, Bishop and all, lost.*

Welsh tour party and itinerary

Full backs: S Bowling (Llanelli), A Clement (Swansea). **Wings:** C Davies (Llanelli), I Evans (Llanelli), G Webbe (Bridgend). **Centres:** B Bowen (South Wales Police, captain), J Devereux (Bridgend), M Hall (Bridgend), M Ring (Pontypool). **Stand-off half:** J Davies (Llanelli). **Scrum halves:** J Griffiths (Llanelli), R Jones (Swansea). **Props:** A Buchanan (Llanelli), S Jones (Pontypool), J Pugh (Neath), D Young (Swansea). **Hookers:** K Phillips (Neath), I Watkins (Ebbw Vale). **Locks:** P May (Llanelli), R Norster (Cardiff), A N Other. **Flankers:** D Bryant (Bridgend), R Collins (South Wales Police), R Phillips (Neath). **No. 8s:** T Fauvel (Aberavon), P Moriarty (Swansea). **Manager:** R Morgan. **Coach:** A Gray. **Assistant coach:** D Quinnell. **Doctor:** M Downes. *Physiotherapist:* A Seary.

ITINERARY: May 18: v Waikato (Hamilton); 21: v Wellington; 24: v Otago (Dunedin); 28: v New Zealand (Christchurch). June 1: v Hawkes Bay (Napier); 4: v Taranaki (New Plymouth); 7: v North Auckland (Whangerei); 11: v New Zealand (Auckland).

Pressure for RFU register

By David Hands

The International Rugby Football Board's directive that players swapping between hemispheres must wait 12 weeks before playing in the visited country will create a plethora of "special cases" in the weeks ahead. It was confirmed yesterday that not only must a player leave a 12-week gap between finishing his domestic season and starting overseas, but the same applies on his return home.

The board's aim is twofold: it hopes to control the swelling *number of "contract"* players from New Zealand and South Africa in Italy and France, and also protect the interests of young players indulging in too much rugby. Whether it can achieve either is dubious and what the board has certainly done is provoke problems for those players who want to make a genuine exchange.

What the IRFB did not say last weekend was that *it is to* recommend to all member unions who do not already have such a system, that they devise a register of players. This is old hat to, for instance, the French, whose players require licences to play at whatever level. But it would be a novelty for Britain and Ireland.

Indeed, the Rugby Football Union is already looking closely at the eligibility regulations devised for the Courage Clubs Championship, to see how the influx of overseas players can be limited. As Dudley Wood, the *RFU secretary*, points out, the championship was intended for the improvement of English rugby and while there will always be a number of imports in a cosmopolitan society, some clubs have already talked openly about bringing in players from overseas to strengthen their weak areas and thus gain promotion to a higher division.

"The 12-week gap is to exercise control over the movement of players, but it's also in the interests of players," Air Commodore Bob Weighill, the retiring secretary of the IRFB, said yesterday.

"But each case will be considered on its merits between the unions concerned. For instance, over the weekend I heard from Lewes, who are sending a young player on a genuine exchange to New Zealand, and fixed up the details months ago. That I consider to be a genuine case."

Harlequins, the John Player Special Cup finalists, have also mentioned Dirk Williams, their New Zealand flanker, to Air Commodore Weighill. Williams who had made all his arrangements before the IRFB directive was known, is returning to New Zealand next week, but Harlequins hope to have him back for the cup final on April 30.

They have been told that, because Williams served his eligibility period before playing competitive rugby this season, he too would be a special case.

ATHLETICS

French polish: Tunstall, once a Preston paint sprayer, who helped France to bronze medal

Tunstall's debt to the Legion

By Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent, Auckland

Roger Hackney gave meticulous preparation a good name when, after three weeks' acclimatisation here he had his best world cross-country championships, leading the *British team* to fourth place with his individual thirteenth. But he was only just the first Briton home, because right behind, after a last lap charge, came Steve Tunstall.

The problem, however was that Tunstall was running for France, having automatically qualified after four years in the French Foreign Legion. Fortunately, Tunstall's 14th place would not even have made the difference between fourth and third for the British team, because the French seventh man was still high enough up the field to ensure bronze medals.

Otherwise, following the offical furore over Zola Budd, Les Jones, the British team manager might have considered a protest because Tunstall still has a British passport. At least, he *thinks* he does.

"When you join the Legion, you have to give in your passport. I only qualified to run because of my four years in the Legion. But my contract is up in five months, and honestly, I don't know what to do then".

Jones tried to persuade him with the promise of plenty of races in Britain. But, judging by his situation, Tunstall might be better off re-enlisting. He thinks he may have to go back to his base in Corsica for a couple of months. But his running talent is good publicity for the new-look Legion. After finishing second in the world military championships, *and fourth in the French* club championship,. thus qualifying for Auckland, he was transferred to the Inter-Army Sports School at Fontainbleau.

"My Commandant is right behind me. He even lets me go back home, although I'm not supposed to". 'Home' is Preston, where the teenage Tunstall, now 24, was once a member of the local athletics club.

"But I didn't take it too seriously. I only trained four times a week, and I was often away at weekends, in the Army Reserve. I ran the national championships once, Jon Richards won the youths race at Hampstead Heath, I was 79th".

Tunstall was a paint sprayer at the time, but worried about the effects on his health. When he couldn't get another job, he joined the Legion. "I'd stopped running really. It was my lieutenant, Patrick Montussac, who started me back. I owe it all to him really. But when I won the French military championships I only trained for the three months before that. The rest of the time, we were off in places like Djibouti on manouevres".

Tunstall put some famous names out of joint on Saturday. He was the third European, one position ahead of another unsung hero, Liverpool *based* Irishman John Woods. But the man who beat Tunstall by one second *to the world military* title, Giuseppe Miccoli of Italy was *22nd. And Jon Richards* was 76th.

HOCKEY

Britain lose again as the Soviets spring a surprise

From Sydney Friskin
Lahore

Great Britain	1
Soviet Union	3

Great Britain, having come here to prepare for the Olympic Games, suffered their third successive defeat in the Champion's Trophy tournament yesterday, beaten by a side well worth their success.

After conceding an early goal, the Soviets, who had never beaten Britain before, became the masters with their superb acceleration and control. They thrived on the element of surprise, came out of most of the tackles with the ball and were quick to intercept.

At least one British experiment was unsuccessful. With McConnell, usually a left half, partnering Faulkner at full back, there was an obviouslack of understanding between them. On numerous occasions Taylor, in goal and without protective cover, was seen sprinting to various parts of the circle, attempting to check the oncoming Soviet front runners.

Britain took the lead in the eighth minute from a long corner. Batchelor's hit from the line penetrated a forest of legs and sticks and Thompson scored from close in. Undeterred, the Soviet Union took up the running and in the 23rd minute Atanov, in a scoring position, was impeded by Dodds who conceded a penalty stroke. Atanov converted.

Three minutes into the second half Britain conceded another penalty, the stranded Taylor knocking Atanov off his feet. Once again, Atanov scored with the penalty stroke.

With the promptings of Potter and Dodds in the middle there was more than a hint of a British revival, short corners coming thick and fast. The Soviet goalkeeper, Pleshakov, was up to the challenge, however, twice saving from Dodds.

The fate of the match was sealed 11 minutes from the end when Deputatov went through the defence to score with a subtle reverse flick from a difficult angle.

GREAT BRITAIN: I Taylor; D Faulkner, W McConnell, J Potter, R Dodds (capt), S Martin, S Batchelor, R Leman (sub: R Garcia), M Grimley, R Clift, R Thompson (sub: C Mayer).

SOVIET UNION: V Pleshakov; V Antakov, S Airepetyan (capt), I Zulchler, M Bukatin, E Khaitov (sub: V Chechenev), I Atanov, V Deputatov, S Kalimbaev, E Natcheyev (sub: S Pleshakov), I Davydov.

Umpires: R Lathouwers (Netherlands), S Baghdadi (Pakistan).

● Australia scraped home with a 2-1 victory over Spain to maintain their challenge for the Champion's Trophy. The Spaniards levelled the scores when Escude scored from a short corner midway through the *second half*, but a last-minute goal from Charlesworth secured victory for the Australians. Reid opened the scoring in the fourth minute.

Holders to aim for the double

By Cathy Harris

Worcestershire will be attempting to win their second successive men's county hockey championship, and their third in all, when they appear in the semi-finals on April 16. Middlesex hold the record for the number of appearances in the final having won four times from eight starts, a feat equalled by Kent and Wiltshire.

According to the draw for the final stages, announced yesterday, two outstanding preliminary round matches will be played on April 9 with the winners advancing to the semi-finals at Beeston Hockey Club near Nottingham

The county championship is the Hockey Association's oldest competition and was held for the first time in 1957-58. It is open to all 37 counties and the three services with the winners of the divisional competition going forward to the national round.

DRAW: Preliminary round (April 9): Match 1: Middlesex v Army. Match 2: Yorkshire v Cambridgeshire. Semi-finals *(April 16)*: Somerset v winner Match 1; Worcestershire v winner *Match 2*. Final: April 17.

Strength in depth at Clifton

By Joyce Whitehead

In readiness for the forthcoming national clubs finals in Coventry from April 22 to 23, the Midlands and West held their club tournaments last weekend. Clifton and Yate, both from Avon, were the successful teams in the West's tournament, while their counterparts in the Midlands were Sutton (Warwickshire) and Leicester.

Sutton did particularly well as they were without their internationals, Hambly and Sixsmith, who were on duty with Great Britain in Australia.

Preparing to transfer to the league system next year, Clifton have obviously had their eye on promising players. Sue Brimble (Gloucester and England) has transferred from Cheltenham, and Samantha Wright (Leicester and England indoor), who is now at college in Cheltenham, has also chosen to play for Clifton.

● Doreen Henry, the Midland umpires secretary for 31 years, has resigned. Her place will be taken by Di Spinks.

STUDENT SPORT

Students keep in practice for World Cup

England play Wales in a student rugby union international at Bristol tonight with both countries hoping to confirm form and availability for the World Student Cup in France this summer (David Hands writes).

Carling, the England centre who played in Harlequins' cup win over Wasps at the weekend, has withdrawn and his place goes to Hopley who played at Gloucester against the French, when England won 17-16. Nor is O'Leary, the Wasps lock, available and Shortland takes his place while Wales, who lost 15-13 to France, replace their injured lock, Kembury, with Langley.

COMBINED ENGLAND STUDENTS: M Appleson (Leeds Polytechnic); P Wood (Hatfield Polytechnic), F Clough (Cambridge University), P Hopley (St Thomas's Hospital), M Bennett (North Cheshire College); A Sutton (Cambridge University), M Hancock (Cambridge University); V Ubogu (Oxford University), B Gilchrist (Cambridge University), A Mullins (London University), S Kelly (Cambridge University, capt), T Swann (Liverpool University), S Shortland (Leeds Polytechnic), S Holmes (University of East Anglia), J Green (South Glamorgan Institute).

WELSH STUDENTS: J Callard (St Paul's and St Mary's College, Cheltenham); D Griffiths (London University), T Michael (*UC Cardiff*), D Evans (UC Swansea), G Davies (UWIST); A Davies (New College, Cardiff), A Booth (UC Swansea); J Malmwaring (UWIST), A Peacock (Gwent College), A Williams (UC Cardiff), S Bryant (UC Swansea, capt), A Rees (South Glamorgan Institute), M Langley (UC Swansea), M Bennett (UC Swansea), S Davies (South Glamorgan Institute).

Oxbridge win in a thriller

By Yuri Matischen

The newly-combined Oxbridge team won their first-ever British Universities water polo championship, held at Walwall Gala Baths at the weekend.

The understanding achieved between World Student Games team members Ortiz (Cambridge), Yates (Cambridge), and Moorhouse (Oxford), was evident in Oxbridge's play as they defeated last year's champions, *the Universities Athletics* Union, 12-11, in a thrilling match to clinch the title.

RESULTS: Oxbridge 12 UAU I 11; Oxbridge 10 London 7; Oxbridge 22 Scotland 5; London 10 UAU I 11; London 11 Scotland 7; UAU I 9 Scotland 10; BPSA 15 UAU II 6; BPSA 30 Wales 3; UAU II 15 Wales 5. Final Placings: 1, Oxbridge; 2, London; 3, UAU I; 4, Scotland; 5, BPSA; 6, UAU II; 7, Wales.

Edinburgh University won the British Universities canoeing slalom team trophy, held at Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham, at the weekend.

Jane Wilson (Edinburgh), ranked fifth in Britain, won the women's kayak event, and then, with Keith Brown and Ian Hughes, helped Edinburgh to another victory in the kayak team event. Brown extended the *Edinburgh run in winning the* mens' kayak event.

Simon Warden, of Bath, defeated Eddie Ward (Edinburgh) to win the Canadian singles.

RESULTS: Mixed team: 1, Bath; 2, Loughborough; 3, Heriot Watt. Kayak team: 1, Edinburgh; 2, Liege (Belgium); 3, Glasgow; 4, Loughborough. Canadian singles (C1): 1, S Warden (Bath); 2, E Ward (Edinburgh); 3, B Horseman (Bath). Canadian doubles (C2): 1, *S Pitt/D* Crosbee (Heriot Watt); 2, S Warden/B Horseman (Bath); 3, R Benson/S Simpson (Nottingham). Ladies' kayak: 1, J Wilson (Edinburgh); 2, P Briscoe (Loughborough); 3, A Walley (Bangor). Men's kayak: 1, K Brown (Edinburgh); 2, D Crosbee (Heriot Watt); 3, S James (Birmingham). Overall team championship: 1, Edinburgh, 83 points; 2, Bath, 63; 3, Heriot Watt, 50.

The English Universities retained both the men's and the women's titles in the British Universities Sports Federation volleyball group tournament held in Newcastle at the weekend.

The event, sponsored by the Northern Rock Building Society, was more a contest of who would come second and third as UAU teams hardly dropped a set in the whole tournament. Surprisingly it was Northern Ireland, in the men's com*petition, who took* UAU *to a* fourth set in the final, recording Ireland's highest placing for many years.

In the women's competition, UAU I easily beat UAU II 3-0 in the final. Oxford University, losing finalists in 1987, defeated Scotland 2-1 to win the bronze medal.

RESULTS: Men: semi-finals: UAU I 2 Scotland 0; London 0 Northern Ireland 2. *final: UAU I 3 Northern Ireland 1*. Final placings: 1, UAU I; 2, Northern Ireland; 3, London; 4, Scotland; 5, UAU II; 6, Cambridge; 7, Oxford; 8, Wales. Women: semi-finals: UAU II 2 Oxford 0; UAU I 2 Scotland 0. Final: UAU I 3 UAU II 0. Final placings: 1, UAU I; 2, UAU II; 3, Oxford; 4, Scotland; 5, Northern Ireland; 6, London; 7, Wales.

Thompson is selected

Robert Thompson, the London University forward whose selection for Britain in the Champions Trophy in Pakistan forced him to miss the British Universities Sports Federation hockey tournament in Swansea last week, has been included in the BUSF squad for the European universities tournament in Bologna, Italy, from May 18 to 21 (David Chappell writes). Fixtures for the BUSF women's side have yet to be finalized.

BUSF MEN: D Gasparro (Bristol); A Price (Birmingham), P Kirkland (London), J Robinson (Cambridge), M Kirkland (Bristol); M Riley (London), E Castenskiold (Cambridge), M Zander (Loughborough), J Brooks (Aberystwyth); J Roberts (Birmingham), P Krishman (London), M Ward (London), C Bell (Cambridge), R Thompson (London). Reserves: T Willman (London), D Hutchinson (Edinburgh), P Shrimpton (London), M Loughlin (Edinburgh).

BUSF WOMEN: J McCannon (Edinburgh); M Allen (Cambridge), M Colenso (Oxford), D Gordon (*Queen's, Belfast*), *S Haigh* (Newcastle), M King (Ulster); R Fraser (Edinburgh), D Menown (Ulster), C McFarland (Stranmillis), P Tattershaw (Oxford); J Campbell (Queen's), C Cooke (Bradford), H Law (Edinburgh), S MacDonald (Edinburgh), C Slater (Loughborough). Reserves: J Lewis (Loughborough), C Dunlop (Edinburgh).

CYCLING

Professionals set sights on time trials

Victories by two professionals in time trials at the weekend suggests that British competition records – at the moment 100 per cent amateur set – may be in danger (Peter Bryan writes).

Darryl Webster, a first-year professional and 1987 Amateur 25-mile Champion, won the Porthole Grand Prix at Bowness-on-Windermere where the Emmelle-MBK professional squad also took the team award, and Bob Downes (Percy Bilton) clocked the fastest time in the Icknield RC Hilly 27-mile event.

No professional holds a British competition record but there are indications that sponsors *may see the "race of truth" as an* opportunity to exploit,

The Road Time Trials Council, the controlling body for events against the clock, does not discriminate between amateur and professional categories, provided that the latter's sponsors are affiliated to the Council.

While professionals are committed mainly on Sundays to road races, the number of Saturday and mid-week time trials is increasing, thus giving them the opportunity for extra competition – or, at least, a hard training ride.

SKIING

Duel to forget the elements

By Iain MacLeod

It was a season when the bizarre and the unexpected seemed to materialize at almost every turn. The World Cup was disrupted on a scale unprecedented in its 22-year history as the *föhn* left central Europe devoid of snow for almost a month.

Matters hardly improved at Calgary in the Winter Olympics. For all Nakiska's rugged beauty, it could not fully compensate for a mountain almost wholly reliant on man-made snow.

Still, the season produced a many-splendoured thing as some different faces partially succeeded in cracking, if not breaking the myth of Swiss invincibility. The Swiss still won 11 medals in Calgary and collectively, still remain the most powerful nation on earth.

There is, however, good reason to believe that, as many of the formidable old guard near *the end of illustrious* careers, Swiss supremancy, especially in the technical disciplines, will be challenged soon even from outside the Alpine powerbase.

The downhill, it seems, is the exception as the Swiss possess such strength in depth, year in, year out, to suggest they will remain dominant. Even the victory of Marina Kiehl, of West Germany, who won the Olympic women's title, does little to disprove the theory: Michela Figini took the World Cup title and Pirmin Zurbriggen triumphed in both the Olympics and overall. The same formidable duo also won their World Cup overall and super giant slalom titles to clearly emerge as finest all-rounders.

The Swiss also possess, in *Vreni Schneider, the best expo*nent of the technical disciplines, although a knee injury at Aspen stopped her adding World Cup crystal to the Olympic golds won in slalom and giant slalom. Schneider, though, will have to beware as the heiress apparent, Mateja Svet, the Yugoslav aged 19, took silver in the Olympic slalom, and last week won the giant slalom title.

But there was no doubt that the most fascinating aspect of the past four months was the joust between two characters whose contrasting personalities became etched on the season. Zurbriggen, the Swiss former choirboy, and Alberto Tomba, the Italian city slicker, captured the imagination. The Olympic and World Cup slalom and giant slalom titles went to Tomba, while Zurbriggen's downhill and super giant slalom supremacy ensured a titanic duel.

It was a contest resolved only at Saturday's slalom, the final event. They were that closely matched despite Tomba's unwillingness to pursue the downhill, where Zurbriggen gained 122 points. And, as Zurbriggen secured the points required from the slalom, he, by contesting all four disciplines, rightly emerged *triumphant*.

Martin Bell, of Great Britain, found his downhill form in the last downhill prior to Calgary. He then proceeded to finish eighth to record the best Olympic placing by a Briton.

FINAL WORLD CUP POSITIONS

MEN: Overall: 1, P Zurbriggen (Switz), 310pts; 2, A Tomba (It), 281; 3, H Strolz (Austria), 190; 4, G Mader (Austria), 189; 5, M Girardelli (Lux), 142; 6, M Wasmeier (WG), 138; 7, F Piccard (Fr), 123; 8, F Heinzer (Switz), 112; 9, P Mueller (Switz), 109; 10, M Mair (It), 108. British: 69, M Bell *12; 93, G Bell, 6. Nations Cup: (Men and* women): 1, Switzerland, 2,123pts; 2, Austria, 2,086; 3, West Germany, 857; 4, Italy, 747; 5, France, 578; 6, Canada, 471; 7, Yugoslavia, 310; 8, Sweden, 301; 9, United States, 191; 10, Spain, 190. 16, Britain, 21. Downhill: 1, Zurbriggen, 122; 2, Mair, 108; equal 3, R Boyd (Can) and Heinzer, 94. Slalom: 1, Tomba, 170; 2, Mader, 69; 3, F McGrath (US), 53. Super giant slalom: 1, Zurbriggen 58; 2, Wasmeier, 57; 3, Piccard, 54. Giant slalom: 1, Tomba, 82; 2, Strolz, 69; 3, H Mayer (Austria), 67.

WOMEN: Overall: 1, M Figini (Switz), 244; 2, B Oertli (Switz), 226; 3, A Wachter (Austria), 211. *Downhill*: 1, Figini, 143; 2, Oertli, 119; 3, M Walliser (Switz), 82. Slalom: 1, R Steiner (Austria), 87; 2, V Schneider (Switz), 80; 3, Wachter, 75. Super giant slalom: 1, Figini, 65; 2, S Eder (Austria), 46; equal 3, R Mösenlechner (WG), and B Fernandez Ochoa (Sp), 40. Giant slalom: 1, M Svet (Yug), 87; 2, C Quittet (Fr), 78; 3, Schneider, 76.

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FOOTBALL

Watson injury may alter planning of England manager

By Ian Ross

Dave Watson, the Everton defender, who is likely to figure prominently in the plans of Bobby Robson, the England manager, for the European Championship finals in West Germany, could be out of action for up to three weeks with a shoulder injury.

Watson missed his first league game of the season for the defending league champions at Watford on Saturday after falling heavily during England's friendly international against The Netherlands at Wembley last week and fears are now growing that he could have cracked a bone in his shoulder.

Colin Harvey, the Everton manager, confirmed yesterday that Watson had been examined by a specialist and that he would definitely miss tonight's game against Wimbledon at Goodison Park and also the club's Easter programme.

"The shoulder is still quite sore and we have had him to see a specialist. There is a possibility that there is a very slight crack in the shoulder. If that is the case he will be out for something like three weeks; if it isn't we are looking at about 10 days," Harvey said.

The news will give Robson cause for concern as Watson has been pencilled in as a possible replacement for Butcher, the Glasgow Rangers defender, who is still not certain of being available for the finals after sustaining a broken leg late last year.

Everton's attempt to move above Manchester United into second place in the first division table tonight has been hit by injuries with three key men facing late fitness tests.

Van Den Hauwe, the Welsh international, and Sharp, the Scottish international, are both rated as doubtful starters after sustaining injury at Vicarage Road and Reid is still recovering from a thigh problem.

If Van Den Hauwe is ruled out, Harvey will have just one proven centre back at his disposeal — Mountfield, who played his first senior game for more than 14 months on Saturday.

Wimbledon, the FA Cup semi-finalists, will complete a Merseyside double tonight having been beaten by Liverpool at Anfield on Saturday.

"Wimbledon are very difficult to play against and if you do not match them in certain aspects you can find yourself in trouble. We sent someone along to watch them at Liverpool and when he reported back he simply said: 'Same as usual'. The style Wimbledon play has served them very well," Harvey said.

Ambitious Walsall plan new stadium

By Dennis Shaw

Walsall are planning a new stadium, only 500 yards from Fellows Park, their present home, as part of the package which saw Terry Ramsden sellout his interests without a profit yesterday. The London-based businessman, who paid £400,000 for seventy-six per cent of the shares 18 months ago, relinquished control to a new consortium of businessman.

In an ironic twist the chairman is Barry Blower, a lifelong supporter of the club who was instrumental in taking Ramsden to Fellows Park after arousing public support to block a merger with Birmingham City. Blower is confident that planning permission for the new stadium, submitted yesterday, will be accepted as start of a new era for the club.

"We have been the Cinderella club of the West Midlands for too long," Blower said on taking up the club chairmanship yesterday. "Now we are going forward with ambition, though the sale of Fellows Park is entirely dependent upon the council approving our plans."

The new owners of Walsall are Newheld Investments, in which Maurice Miller, a Leeds businessman, is the major shareholder. Miller has business interests in Walsall along with Geoff Bonser and Ray Clift, who join Blower on the reconstituted board of directors. More directors are to be appointed in due course.

Ramsden's decision to sell has been in the pipeline for several months. He is said to have suffered in October's Black Monday on the stock exchange.

The position of the Walsall manager, Tommy Coakley, who was taken to the club by Ramsden is declared to be "perfectly secure" as Walsall continue a strong bid for promotion to division two.

England may have to find new junior team

England's hopes of winning the European under-21 championship for the third time have received a serious setback. Eight of the side will be required by their clubs for rearranged League fixtures when England meet France in the UEFA semi-final first leg on April 13.

The date selected by the Football Association clashes with three scheduled first division matches: Liverpool v Nottingham Forest, Derby County v Queen's Park Rangers and Oxford v Sheffield Wednesday. The night before the international Manchester United play Luton, West Ham United meet Arsenal and Hull face Swindon.

That means England could be forced to go to France without Paul Davis, Michael Thomas and David Rocastle, of Arsenal, Franz Carr, Des Walker and Nigel Clough, of Forest Stewart Robson, of West Ham, and Fraser Digby of Swindon.

"It's the guts of the team," England manager, Bobby Robson, said. "We might have to find another team."

Clough, Walker and Rocastle all played in the 1-0 win over Scotland last Tuesday which took England into the semi-finals.

George Graham, the Arsenal manager, has already confirmed that he would not release his players for England. "My first loyalty is to Arsenal. If we have a chance of finishing second in the League and qualifying for Europe those players will play for Arsenal," he said.

The FA may be left with no alternative but to consider asking the French to switch dates.

● Thomas, the Arsenal midfield player, has been named as the Barclays Young Eagle for February.

● Tottenham's Hung Dang, is included with two other White Hart Lane schoolboys, Scott-Arron Houghton and Ian Walker, in a 16-strong England under-16 team to tour Israel from April 1 to 6.

SQUAD: Alexander (Wimbledon), Charlton (Huddersfield), Cole (Arsenal), Dang (Tottenham), Houghton (Tottenham), Kavanagh (Birmingham), Mitchell (Bournemouth), Seymour (Coventry), Sheppard (Watford), Small (Aston Villa), Stanger (Manchester United), Towler (Watford), Walker (Tottenham), Turner (Portsmouth), Walters (Crewe), Williams (Manchester City).

Clough is ready to make a bid

The Nottingham Forest manager, Brian Clough, confirmed yesterday that he would be making a firm approach for Tottenham's central defender, Chris Fairclough, a former Forest player.

Clough said: "I was not able to get in touch with the Tottenham manager, Terry Venables, but I will be doing so during the week. I didn't want Fairclough to leave us in the first place. I'm planning for the future here and I'd like him to be part of it."

Fairclough left for Tottenham last summer for £387,000. Clough is now prepared to pay around £450,000 to get him back.

The former Chelsea first team coach, Ernie Walley, joined Watford on the eve of the crucial relegation match between the teams at Stamford Bridge. Walley, dismissed by Chelsea six weeks ago, teams up with his brother Tom on the coaching staff at Vicarage Road until the end of the season.

The England and Rangers' defender, Terry Butcher, resumed full training yesterday after being out of action since breaking a leg against Aberdeen on November 17. The Rangers' player-manager Graeme Souness said: "I am delighted to have him round the place again as there is no doubt that he has been missed both on and off the field. He is so influential. But we will watch closely how he gets on and will not rush him at this stage of the season.

● Ossie Ardiles, back at Tottenham for treatment for an ankle injury received in his first game for Blackburn, at Plymouth on Saturday, is "doubtful" for the Good Friday game at Oldham according to the Blackburn manager, Don McKay.

● Barnet, favourites to replace Newport in the fourth division, are showing a 44% increase in attendances this season. The Vauxhall Conference leaders are averaging 2,464.

● Another Conference club, Boston, have rejected a £25,000 bid from Charlton for goalkeeper John McKenna. The 25-year-old attracted the first division club's interest when Maurice Setters was asked to watch him on behalf of the Republic of Ireland manager, Jack Charlton.

In doubt: Watson, the Everton defender, whose injury may make him unavailable for the European championships

Reading revert to survival struggle

Reading are almost £250,000 richer after winning the Simod Cup, but they may not be eligible to defend the trophy next season.

Unless they can reproduce the form which destroyed Luton Town 4-1 at Wembley when they resume their League schedule, Reading will be relegated into the third division and lose the right to enter the competition which gave them the best day in their 117-year history.

The second division side beat five first division teams in winning the cup, and also knocked Chelsea out of the Littlewoods Cup, but the reason for their success remains baffling.

"None of us know why we are struggling in the league," Mick Tait, whose makeshift forward partnership with Michael Gilkes caused Luton so many problems, said.

"We have been ahead in so many games, then given silly goals away and not been able to come back. It will be difficult, but if the spirit is the same as it was at Wembley, we have every chance of staying up."

Although Tait and Gilkes scored on Sunday, they are likely to revert to Reading's midfield and defence respectively in Saturday's home League game against Ipswich. Steve Moran and Billy Whitehurst, the forwards who were cup-tied at Wembley, return.

While Reading have a week to savour their title, Luton can put their disappointment behind them against Portsmouth at Kenilworth Road tonight.

But the main concern of Ray Harford, their manager, is that his players learn the lessons of the Wembley defeat before returning to face Arsenal in the Littlewoods Cup final on April 24.

"We are a different team away from home. It's not because of our pitch or our supporters, its our attitude," Harford said. "If we can learn from this, it could be a blessing in disguise. But we won't know until we come up against Arsenal — and if we play like that again, we will lose by six or seven."

● Joe McLaughlin, the Chelsea captain, will return against Watford in tonight's match between two of the first division's relegation candidates at Stamford Bridge. McLaughlin, a defender, has missed four matches with ankle trouble. Colin West is also named in the 14-man squad.

Burrows injury scare

By George Ace

Syd Burrows, the Linfield stalwart, may miss the rest of the season because of an ankle injury sustained in last Friday's match at Bangor. Roy Coyle, the Linfield manager, said yesterday: "I will not know definitely until I consult Terry Hayes, the club physiotherapist. Syd had to come off during the match at Bangor, but I was not aware at the time that the injury to his ankle was so serious."

Linfield meet Carrick Rangers tonight at Windsor Park (7.30) in the opening round of the County Antrim Football Association centenary tournament, sponsored by Cawoods Chalice. The gloom hanging over Windsor Park these past few weeks lifted suddenly when the team returned to form to beat Cliftonville 4-0 at the weekend.

Seven points clear at the top of the table, Glentoran, the League champions-elect, meet the RUC at the Oval, in the same competition. After a jittery performance at Seaview, where a goal six minutes from time salvaged the points in a 3-2 win over Crusaders, Tommy Jackson, the Glentoran manager, may welcome this kind of opposition.

ATHLETICS

Nebiolo facing pressure to quit

Rome (Reuter) — The international athletics chief, Primo Nebiolo, faced pressure yesterday to quit as head of the Italian federation following an inquiry which said the long jump at the world championships in Rome was fixed to win Italy a medal.

The Italian federation, FIDAL, said yesterday its secretary-general, Luciano Barra, who the inquiry implied covered up the scandal, had resigned. Italy's Olympic Committee called for disciplinary action against Barra and six other federation officials named in the affair, which brought Giovanni Evangelisti the bronze with a falsely measured jump.

Nebiolo, the International Athletic Federation (IAAF) president since 1983, was not implicated by the inquiry, set up by the Olympic Committee after doubts about an IAAF probe which found no evidence that last September's competition was rigged.

But sports commentators said there must be a major shake-up at the top of the national federation and noted allegations by the inquiry that the IAAF had attempted to obstruct its work.

"Can the leadership of a federation maintain credibility when its officials do their utmost to falsify results? Our answer is 'no'," La Gazzetta dello Sport newspaper said. "The gravity of the affair, and the need for change in FIDAL, call for drastic and radical solutions. Only one doubt remains: whether Nebiolo is capable of conducting such an operation," it said.

Nebiolo, a 64-year-old trained lawyer and former long jumper, has been president of FIDAL since 1969 and vice-chairman of Italy's Olympic Committee (CONI) since 1978. Nebiolo was not available for comment yesterday, but he has pledged FIDAL's ruling council will take full account of the Evangelisti inquiry and the Olympic Committee recommendations.

A FIDAL spokesman said Barra, Nebiolo's right-hand man, had submitted his resignation at the weekend and that the council would decide whether to accept when it next meets. It is due to convene by April 10 to discuss the Evangelisti affair.

Barra, who was responsible for gathering evidence on the long jump for the IAAF probe, faces disciplinary action by the Olympic Committee. The six others, chief national coach Enzo Rossi and five world championship judges, will be judged by the federation.

All deny wrongdoing and Barra, in a statement, said his resignation was prompted by a desire to bring calm to athletics. La Gazzetta quoted two others, judges Paolo Giannone and Francesco Bertolotti, as saying they had also resigned. Officials could not confirm this.

An eighth official, former national sprint coach Alessandro Donati, who exposed the scandal in a report to police, faces disciplinary action by CONI for not approaching the Olympic Committee with his allegations first.

CRICKET

Marshall is fined for criticizing Jamaican umpires

From Richard Streeton, Georgetown, Guyana

Malcolm Marshall, the Test fast bowler, has been fined by the West Indies board for criticizing the umpires publicly after a match in Jamaica last month. It is rare for the West Indian authorities to make it known when they penalize a leading player in domestic cricket. Their action now reflects the concern felt worldwide by administrators about current behaviour in the game.

Marshall, the Barbados captain, claimed his team had been "robbed" by poor Jamaican umpiring when he returned to Bridgetown after a stormy Red Stripe championship game. He apologized at the disciplinary hearing and his fine was a paltry 500 Barbados dollars (about £138), but the board's scale of fines are geared to low Caribbean incomes, rather than the money earned by international stars.

In the same match, Desmond Haynes, the Test opening batsman, was given an immediate "suspended fine", which is interpreted as a caution, for knocking off his bails when given out lbw. Following another match, in Kingston, Winston Davis, the fast bowler and Windward Islands captain, was "admonished and discharged," for arguing with umpires.

No board has a harder task than that of the West Indies in overseeing their players, who are scattered around the various territories or live overseas. The latest worry concerns exhibition games being arranged in Hollywood by a Pakistani entrepreneur who lives in Los Angeles.

He has persuaded most members of the West Indian and Pakistan teams to fly to California as soon as the Test series ends in Barbados on April 27, to play one-day matches on April 30 and May 1, hoping to attract crowds of 12,000 or so. Immediately the second game finishes, the West Indians will be rushed by helicopter to the airport to fly overnight to London, where their touring party is to assemble on Monday, May 2, to start the tour of England.

Apart from the risk of injury, it is hardly ideal preparation for a major tour immediately after a Caribbean series.

SQUASH RACKETS

Saleem gives taste of Harris's task

Some measure of the task facing Del Harris, the teenaged British national champion, in attempting to end his junior career on an individual and team double at the junior world championships, became evident in Edinburgh yesterday.

The first match in the first round unveiled the merciless talents of Mohd Saleem, aged 17, the Pakistani No. 4, who destroyed Israel's Graham Kantor 9-1, 9-0, 9-2 in 16 minutes.

Saleem meets Harris, aged 18, in today's second round. The top-seeded Briton should deal easily enough with Saleem, but seeded close behind him are a trio of tough Australians and the rest of the Pakistanis.

More important to Harris is the news that Jansher Khan, the senior world champion, has been obliged by the Pakistan SRA to return next week to lead their assault on the world junior team title; he therefore misses the individual event here.

RESULTS: Preliminary round: D Ritchie (Scot) bt G Frank (US), 9-0, 9-3, 9-4; T Rutherford (Scot) bt D Wong (HK), 4-9, 9-3, 10-8, 1-9, 9-3; J Power (Eng) bt J Easdon (US), 9-2, 9-7, 9-1; A Hands (Eng) bt G Kemp (Scot), 10-8, 9-5, 9-3; R Godden (Eng) bt P Weberberger (Swe), 9-1, 9-3, 9-4; S Wilson (Scot) bt K Bolge (Den), 9-0, 9-1, 9-1; E Noyce (Eng) bt D Leung (HK), 9-0, 9-3, 9-0; P Nicol (Scot) bt S Poon (HK), 9-1, 9-1, 9-0; P Marshall (Eng) bt R Arjoon (Guy), 9-5, 9-0, 9-0; A Clarke (NZ) bt C Stewart (Scot), 9-2, 9-7, 9-8; J Thun (Swe) bt B Hudson (Scot), 10-9, 9-7, 9-1; P Ward (England) bt A McSherry (Scot), 9-5, 9-4, 9-4; S Lahtinen (Fin) bt S Randall (Wales), 9-3, 9-0, 9-4; C Vinther (Den) bt G Brodie (Scot), 2-9, 9-2, 9-0, 9-7; S Stoneburgh (Can) bt N Hanson (Eng), 10-8, 9-4, 9-7; A Shum (HK) bt S Licudi (Scot), 9-0, 9-6, 9-5; D Hiesch (Swe) bt R Booth (Scot), 9-2, 9-2, 9-3; P Steel (NZ) bt A Gough (Wal), 9-6, 5-9, 9-4, 9-6; C Rowland (Aus) bt S Forrester (Scot), 9-3, 9-1, 9-1; J Lim (Mal) bt N Jones (Wal), 2-9, 10-8, 9-1, 9-3.

RACKETS

Adversaries meet again

For the second year running, Marlborough meet Tonbridge in the final of the Public Schools championship at Queen's Club today (William Stephens writes). Barker and Robinson were losing finalists for Marlborough last year, but Tonbridge have a new pair — Gill and Penfold — who won the Colt doubles last March.

Marlborough yesterday defeated Radley, the fourth seeds, 15-1, 11-15, 15-4, 15-4, 15-4 in the semi-finals, while Tonbridge beat Malvern, the third seeds 15-7, 15-3, 15-8, 15-7. Malvern had earlier survived a seven-game encounter with Marlborough II, Marlborough's first pair also showing fallibility in another seven-game quarter-final, against the Eton pairing of Smith-Bingham and Swingleburst.

Bevan and Barker, the Marlborough II pairing, contest the final of the Second Pairs' Cup with the Etonians, Trusted and Eddis. Norman and Smith-Bingham, the Eton under-16 pair, won the Colts doubles championship by defeating Winchester (Ward and Turnill), 15-12, 10-15, 15-6, 15-12, 15-7.

EQUESTRIANISM

New Masters driving competition

A new international carriage driving competition, the Masters Trophy, will be held at this year's Royal Windsor Horse Show, which takes place from May 12 to 15 (a Special Correspondent writes).

Five countries — the United States, Austria, Switzerland, Belgium and Britain — are taking part, and each will nominate one team and one pair of horses and one single horse, whose combined scores will determine the final result.

The competition is being sponsored by Harrods, which has also announced the continuation for the next five years of its support for the International Driving Grand Prix at the Royal Windsor Horse Show.

This year's grand prix is regarded as a trial for potential British team members for the world championships at Appeldoorn, The Netherlands, at the beginning of September. The five teams to travel to The Netherlands will be announced after the final selection trial at Floors Castle, Roxburghshire from July 1 to 3.

One of the main contenders for a place on the British team is David Saunders, winner of last year's Famous Grouse National Championships. This year, the championships take place from September 9 to 11 in Windsor Great Park, less than a mile from Windsor town centre.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

RUISLIP: Finchley Open 20-mile road race: 1, S Kerr (Enfield), 1hr 47min 31sec; 2, J Watson (Thames Hare and Hounds), 1:47.59; 3, D Cordwell (Bristol), 1:48.27. Team: Ealing, 149pts. Veteran: B Walters (Thames Valley Harriers), 1:49.36. Women: L Watson (LOAC), 2:13.25.

BADMINTON

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND INTER-COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Essex 11, Lancashire 5; Yorkshire 6, Surrey 11. Surrey (holders) meet Essex in final.

BOXING

BELFAST: Professional tournament: Bantamweight: (6 rnds): Billy Barton (Wales) bt Sean Casey (Derry), pts. Light-welterweight: (6 rnds): Andy Holligan (Belfast) bt Tony Richards (Nottingham), rsc 2nd. Bantamweight: (8 rnds): Roy Webb (Larne) drew with Francisco Arroyo (Panama). Super-featherweight: (10 rnds) (for the vacant Irish title): Pat Doherty (Croydon) bt Ritchie Foster (Dublin), rsc 1st. Light-middleweight: (8rnds): Terry Magee (Belfast) bt Chris Richards (Nottingham), pts. WBA flyweight title: (10 rnds): Fidel Bassa (Colombia, champion) bt Dave McAuley (Larne), pts.

CYCLING

ALSEMBERG, Belgium: Brabant Arrow race: (229km): 1, J Capiot (Bel); 2, J-P Vandebrande (Bel), at 45sec; 3, R Goelz (WG), 47.

Time trial

ROSS-ON-WYE: (2-up, 25 miles): 1, P Legg and N Bailey (Abergavenny RC), 1hr 1min 29sec.

ANTIBES: 57th Criterium international road race (8km sprint): 1, E Breukink (Neth), 9min 44.81; 2, A Coll (Sp), 7sec behind; 3, G Bugno (It), 13sec; 4, J Sabby (Den), same; 5, L Fignon (Fr), 14sec; 6, J-C Colotti (Fr), 17. Leading second stage placings: (84 km): 1, L Fignon (Fr), 2hr 33min 5sec; 2, R Millar (GB), 25sec behind; 3, E Breukink (Neth). Final overall placings: 1, E Breukink (Neth), 7hr 43min 19sec; 2, L Fignon (Fr), 8sec behind; 3, R Millar (GB), 27; 4, P Simon (Fr), 29; 5, A Pino (Sp), 30; 6, G Bugno (It), 46.

SPEEDWAY

GRUDGE CUP: First leg: Mildenhall 58 (A Hines 14, E Monaghan 12), Arena Essex 38 (M Goodwin 13).
FRANK VAREY TROPHY: Bradford Dukes 55 (N Evitts 14, G Havelock 11, R Pfetzing 11), Sheffield Tigers 35 (K Moran 11).
CHALLENGE MATCH: Rye House 49 (J Rasmussen 13), Milton Keynes 43 (N Sparshott 14, T Banks 10).

BASKETBALL

UNITED STATES: National Association (NBA):

Eastern Conference
Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
* Boston Celtics	48	21	.696	–
Philadelphia	30	38	.441	17½
Washington	30	38	.441	17½
NY Knicks	29	39	.426	18½
New Jersey Nets	18	51	.261	30
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
† Detroit Pistons	46	21	.687	–
Atlanta Hawks	41	26	.612	5
Chicago Bulls	40	28	.588	6½
Milwaukee Bucks	38	29	.567	8
Indiana Pacers	33	35	.485	13½
Cleveland	31	38	.449	16
Western Conference Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
† Dallas Mavericks	46	21	.687	–
† Denver Nuggets	43	26	.623	4
† Houston Rockets	40	26	.606	5½
† Utah Jazz	38	30	.559	8½
San Antonio Spurs	25	42	.373	21
Sacramento Kings	20	48	.294	27½
Pacific Division	W	L	Pct	GB
† LA Lakers	52	16	.765	–
† Portland	42	25	.627	9½
Seattle SuperSons	36	32	.529	16
Phoenix Suns	22	45	.324	30
Golden State	17	50	.254	34½
LA Clippers	14	53	.209	37½

* Won division title
† Won play-off berth

NATWEST TROPHY: Semi-final: Second leg: Kingston 80 (Bontrager 23, Scott 20, Davis 14), Portsmouth 74 (Irish 26, Cunningham 16, Glass 13). Portsmouth win 186-167 on aggregate; MIM Livingston 90 (Hill 20, Collier 19, Young 17), Calderdale 67 (Brandon 23, Findlay 20, Johnson 13), MIM win 164-142 on aggregate.

FENCING

LONDON: De Beaumont foil international cup: Elimination quarter-final: L Strachan (GB) bt J Hanlon (GB), 8-5; F McIntosh (GB) bt G Schnoll (WG), 8-3; A Brannon (GB) bt P Whitehead (GB), 8-6; K Cecil (GB) bt A Ferguson (GB), 8-3. Semi-final: Strachan bt McIntosh, 8-6; Brannon bt Cecil, 8-5. Final: Brannon bt Strachan, 8-7. Third and fourth places: McIntosh bt Cecil, 8-5.

FOOTBALL

LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Bray Wanderers 1, Galway United 2.

GOLF

SONY WORLD RANKINGS: 1, G Norman (Aus), 1,386pts; 2, S Ballesteros (Sp), 1,165; 3, B Langer (WG), 1,064; 4, A Lyle (Scot), 967; 5, I Woosnam (Wales), 858; 6, C Strange (US), 824; 7, B Crenshaw (US), 754; 8, P Azinger (US), 726; 9, P Stewart (US), 689; 10, N Faldo (Eng) 673.

HANDBALL

BRITISH CUP: Men: Semi-finals: Manchester United SSS 19, Liverpool 21; Wakefield 24, Ruislip Eagles 25. Women: Arcton 9, Halewood Town Ladies 11; Ruislip Eagles 11, Manchester United SSS 24.

HOCKEY

HERTS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP: Final: Broxbourne 3, West Herts 1.
NATIONWIDE/ANGLIA UNDER-18 NATIONAL CUP: Finals: East: Bedford School. Midlands: Warwick School.

ICE HOCKEY

NORTH AMERICA: National League (NHL): New Jersey Devils 7, New York Rangers 2; Pittsburgh Penguins 6, Quebec Nordiques 3; Hartford Whalers 4, Montreal Canadiens 2; Detroit Red Wings 5, Buffalo Sabres 3.

Wales Conference
Patrick Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
NY Islanders	37	29	10	84	292	253
Washington Caps	38	31	7	83	268	231
Philadelphia	37	32	7	81	276	278
NY Rangers	34	34	9	77	287	277
Pittsburgh	34	33	9	77	306	297
N Jersey Devils	34	36	6	74	273	289
Adams Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
† Montreal	43	22	12	98	282	229
† Boston Bruins	43	28	6	92	294	242
Buffalo Sabres	35	31	10	80	271	289
Hartford Whalers	34	35	7	75	241	258
Quebec Nor'ques	32	40	4	68	262	289
Campbell Conference Norris Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
* Detroit RWs	40	27	10	90	310	259
† St Louis Blues	34	35	8	76	270	277
† Chicago B'hawks	30	38	8	68	266	304
Toronto MLs	20	47	10	50	261	329
Minnesota N Stars	19	45	12	50	230	325
Smythe Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
† Calgary Flames	46	21	9	101	376	267
† Edmonton Oils	41	25	10	92	341	274
† Winnipeg Jets	31	36	10	72	278	298
LA Kings	27	42	7	61	289	339
Vancouver	24	45	9	57	264	316

* Won division title
† Won playoff berth

SCOTTISH CUP FINAL: At Murrayfield: Murrayfield Racers 9, Fife Flyers 6.

MOTO-CROSS

LYNG, Norfolk: British championship: Overall: 1, D Thorpe (Honda); 2, K Nicoll (Kawasaki); 3, M Ansley (Honda).

WRESTLING

TOLEDO: World Cup: 48kg: 1, S Karamchakov (USSR). 52kg: 1, J Gonzales (US). 57kg: 1, R Karayev (USSR). 62kg: 1, J McFarland (US). 68kg: 1. A Magomedov (USSR). 74kg: 1, A Rodriguez (Cuba). 82kg: 1, A Tambovtsev (USSR). 90kg: 1, M Khadartsev (USSR). 100kg: 1, A Atavov (USSR). 130kg: 1, D Gobedzhishvili (USSR).

RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB, London: Public Schools championship: Second round: Radley bt Eton II, 15-8, 15-4, 15-0, 3-15, 15-16, 15-0; Tonbridge bt Harrow, 15-3, 15-5, 15-2, 15-5; Marlborough I bt Eton I, 6-15, 15-4, 15-8, 8-15, 15-7, 16-17, 15-0; Malvern bt Marlborough II, 18-15, 15-2, 4-15, 15-10, 3-15, 10-15, 15-8. Colts Doubles (under 16): Final: Eton bt Winchester, 15-12, 10-15, 15-6, 15-12, 15-7. Peter Gray Cup (Under 15) Final: Clifton bt Charterhouse, 15-2, 15-2, 15-9.

RUGBY UNION

BRISTOL: National hospitals sevens tournament: Shield: University College 24, St Thomas's B 22. Cup: St Thomas's A 24, Cardiff Medical School 10.
PRESTON: Schools festival: Semi-finals: Kirkham GS 3, Regent's House 0; Bradford GS 11, Stockport GS 0. Final: Bradford 10, Kirkham 3.
DEVON HAVILL PLATE: Final: Old Technicians 12, Plymouth Civil Service 13.
KENT COLTS CUP: Final: Old Beccehamians 6, Westcombe Park 12.
SURREY COLTS CUP: Final: Camberley 6, Old Walcountians 29.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: At Thurrock RFC: Essex 18, Netherlands B 10; Essex under-21s 20; Norfolk under-21s 18.

ETON FIVES

ETON: Amateur championship: Kinnaird Cup: Quarter-finals: B Matthews and J Reynolds bt G Pulford and M King, 3-0; M Williams and N Rathbone bt M Blundell and M Keeling, 3-1; M Moore and G Baker bt G Bond and M Smith, 3-0; A Gibson and D Wainwright bt G Davies and R Topham, 3-1.

SQUASH RACKETS

WARMOND, The Netherlands: ICI European team championship: Finals: Men: England bt Sweden, 5-0. G Williams bt F Johnson, 9-0, 9-0, 9-0; B Beeson bt A Waldstedt, 9-5, 9-7, 9-3; M Bodimeade bt J Gomersp, 9-7, 9-0, 8-9, 9-7; P Whitlock bt B Almarom, 9-4, 1-9, 9-5, 9-2; J Nicolle bt T Kjalker, 9-4, 9-7, 10-8. Final positions: 1, England; 2, Sweden; 3, Finland; 4, Wales; 5, Scotland; 6, Ireland. Women: England bt Ireland, 2-1. L Opie lost to R Best, 10-8, 9-1, 7-9, 7-9, 4-9; M Le Moignan bt M Burke, 9-1, 9-5, 9-0; A Cumings bt B Conway, 9-3, 9-7, 9-3. Final positions: 1, England; 2, Ireland; 3, Germany; 4, Wales; 5, Netherlands; 6, Scotland.

SNOOKER

PRESTON: Embassy World Championship qualifying tournament: Second round: B Werbaniuk (Can) bt B Rosewell (Eng), 10-6; B Chaperon (Can) bt R Marshall (Eng), 10-3; G Miles (Eng) bt R Bales (Eng), 10-7; T Chappel (Wales) bt N Gilbert (Eng), 10-8; B Oliver (Eng) bt R Reardon (Wales), 10-6; M Bradley (Eng) bt I Williamson (Eng), 10-8; M Smith (Eng) bt J McLaughlin (Ire), 10-3; S Newbury (Wales) bt E Lawlor (Eng), 10-3; S Duggan (Eng) bt P Gibson (Eng), 10-9; W Jones (Wales) bt G Wilkinson (Can), 10-4; J Wych (Can) bt J Smith (Eng), 10-3.

SQUASH RACKETS

HULL: Northern championship: Yorkshire 3, Humberside 2.

TABLE TENNIS

LEEDS BRITISH LEAGUE: First division: Bradford 5, Newcastle 3; Dagenham 5, West Warwickshire 3; St Neots 4, Horsham 4; Larkhall 1, Ashford 7.

TENNIS

ATP RANKINGS: 1, I Lendl (Cz); 2, M Wilander (Swe); 3, S Edberg (Swe); 4, B Becker (WG); 5, J Connors (US); 6, P Cash (Aus); 7, M Mecir (Cz); 8, Y Noah (Fr); 9, T Mayotte (US); 10, B Gilbert (US).
STOCKPORT: Pro Kennex indoor winter circuit: Final: Men's singles: D Ison (Leicester) bt N Pashley (Surrey), 6-4, 7-6. Women's singles: J Louis (Devon) bt L Gracie (Cheshire), 6-0, 6-4.
SHEFFIELD: VW national ranking tournament: Final: Men's singles: J Howarth bt P Ranson, 6-2, 6-2. Women's singles: M Hirst bt H Parkin, 2-6, 6-2, 6-4.

VOLLEYBALL

NEWCASTLE: BRITISH UNIVERSITIES CHAMPIONSHIP: Semi-finals: England 2, Scotland 0; Northern Ireland 2, London 0. Third and fourth play-off: London 2, Scotland 0. Final: Northern Ireland 1, England 3. Women's semi-finals: UAU I 2, Scotland 0; UAU II 2, Oxford 0. Third and fourth play-off: Oxford 2, Scotland 1. Final: UAU I 3, UAU II 0.

Cowdell date

The bout between Pat Cowdell, the British super-featherweight champion, and Dave Savage of Glasgow at Aston Villa leisure centre on April 5, will be a non-title fight, following a ruling by the Board of Control.

Blow to Bradley

Tigre, Caroline Bradley's top show jumper, has died of a heart attack.

Cannon salute

Crystal Palace will play Tottenham Hotspur in a testimonial match for Jim Cannon, the club's captain, on April 26. Cannon, aged 34, has been at Selhurst Park since 1970 and recently made his 650th League appearance for them.

England clean up

England's women's squash team has been given a four-figure sponsorship by soap producers Shield on the eve of their defence of the European team title.

Gollogly returns

Anne Gollogly, Britain's most-capped basketball player, has been selected for the Britain's Olympic squad for the fourth time.

Carter elected

Chris Carter, the Warrington finisher in the first London to Paris triathlon, has been elected president of the British Long Distance Swimming Association.

POOLS FORECAST by Paul Newman

Saturday April 2 unless stated

FIRST DIVISION

2 Chelsea v Arsenal
1 Coventry v Oxford
1 Manchester U v Derby
1 Newcastle v Luton
X Norwich v Charlton
2 Nottm F v Liverpool
1 Sheffield W v West Ham
X Soton v Wimbledon
1 Tottenham v Portsmth
Not on coupons: Watford v QPR (Friday)

SECOND DIVISION

1 Birmingham v Hull
1 Bradford v Barnsley
1 C Palace v Bournemth
2 Huddersfield v Man C
1 Middlesbro v Sheffield U
1 Millwall v A Villa
1 Reading v Ipswich
2 Shrewsbury v Leeds
X Swindon v Leicester
X WBA v Stoke

Not on coupons: Oldham v Blackburn (Friday)

THIRD DIVISION

2 Brentford v Notts Co
1 Brighton v Gillingham
1 Bristol C v Aldershot
1 Bury v York
X Chesterfld v Bristol R
2 Grimsby v Sunderland
1 Northampton v Fulham
1 Port Vale v Doncaster
1 Preston v Mansfield
X Rotherham v Blackpool
1 Walsall v Chester
Not on coupons: Southend v Wigan (Friday)

FOURTH DIVISION

2 Burnley v Wolves
1 Hartlepool v Peterboro
1 Leyton O v Bolton
2 Scarboro v Scunthorpe
1 Swansea v Rochdale
1 Torquay v Stockport
1 Wrexham v Tranmere

Not on coupons: Cambridge v Darlington (Friday); Colchester v Halifax (Friday); Crewe v Hereford (Friday); Exeter v Cardiff; Newport v Carlisle

VAUXHALL-OPEL LGE PREMIER DIVISION

2 Barking v Tooting
2 Bognor v Hayes
X Croydon v Kingstonian
1 Dulwich v Hitchin

SCOTTISH PREMIER

X Dundee U v Dundee
2 Dunfermline v Aberdeen
2 Hibernian v Celtic
1 Motherwell v Morton
1 Rangers v Hearts
1 St Mirren v Falkirk

SCOTTISH FIRST

2 Clyde v Hamilton
X Dumbarton v Airdrie
1 Forfar v Kilmarnock
1 Meadowbank v East Fife
1 Q of Sth v Clydebank
1 Raith v Partick

SCOTTISH SECOND

2 Albion v Stirling
1 Alloa v Berwick
1 Ayr v Arbroath
X Brechin v Queen's Pk
1 St Johnstone v E Stirling
Not on coupons: Stenhousemuir v Cowdenbeath; Stranraer v Montrose

TREBLE CHANCE (home teams): Norwich, Southampton, Swindon, WBA, Chesterfield, Rotherham, Croydon, Dundee United, Dumbarton, Brechin. Next best: Birmingham, Dulwich.
BEST DRAWS: Norwich, Southampton, Swindon, WBA, Dumbarton.
AWAYS: Arsenal, Manchester City, Leeds, Scunthorpe, Celtic.

HOMES: Crystal Palace, Middlesbrough, Bristol City, Bury, Port Vale, Walsall, Swansea, Torquay, Motherwell, Meadowbank, Alloa, Ayr.

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Crystal Palace, Middlesbrough, Bury, Walsall, Swansea. Aways: Leeds, Notts County, Celtic. Draws: Norwich, Southampton, Swindon.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C
ANDORRA							
Soldeu	5	150	fair	crust	closed	sun	7
Crust in morning, slushy in afternoon							
FRANCE							
Flaine	250	360	good	heavy	good	fine	8
Good Easter skiing							
Isola	80	140	icy	crust	poor	fine	10
Spring conditions							
SWITZERLAND							
Crans Montana	160	260	good	heavy	good	fine	5
Good Spring skiing on piste							
Verbier	110	350	good	powder	good	sun	–8
Excellent skiing below 2,300m							
Wengen	30	230	good	powder	good	fine	2
Very good powder skiing, snow wind blown							
Zermatt	150	250	good	good	good	sun	5
Fabulous conditions everywhere							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper, and art to artificial.

SNOW REPORTS

SWITZERLAND	L	U
Adelboden	115	190
Andermatt	170	280
Arosa	155	200
Davos	120	250
Engelberg	60	200
Grindelwald	50	230
Gstaad	60	140
Klosters	100	240
Laax-Flims	100	300
Les Diablerets	60	280
Leysin	100	200
Murren	180	210
Pontresina	40	140
Saas Fee	100	200
St Moritz	85	110
Villars	80	250

● Information supplied by the Swiss National Tourist Office.

SCOTLAND

Cairngorm: upper runs, runs complete, wide snow cover, new snow on a firm base; middle runs, runs complete, wide snow cover, spring snow; lower slopes, runs complete, spring snow; vertical runs, 1,800ft; snow level, 2,000ft; hill and main roads, clear. Glenshee: upper runs, runs complete, new snow on a firm base; middle runs, runs complete, wet snow on a firm base; lower slopes, some runs complete, wet snow on a firm base; vertical runs, 2,000ft; snow level, 1,500ft; hill and main roads, clear. Glencoe: upper runs, runs complete, wide snow cover, new snow on a firm base; lower slopes, runs complete, but narrow new snow on a firm base; vertical runs, 1,600ft; snow level, 2,000ft; hill and main roads, clear. Lecht: upper and middle runs, runs complete, spring snow; lower slopes, ample nursery areas, spring snow; vertical runs, 700ft; snow level, 2,000ft; hill and main roads, clear. Forecast for today: most areas will have brief bright intervals and occasional showers; showers could be heavy and prolonged in places, especially Glencoe and falling as sleet or snow above about 2,000ft; freezing level will be 2,500ft and winds fresh or strong south-westerly. Outlook for tomorrow: sunny intervals and occasional showers, falling as snow on higher parts; becoming less windy.

● Information supplied by the Scottish Meteorological Office.

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Whiteside puts in a transfer request

By Ian Ross

Norman Whiteside, Manchester United and Northern Ireland footballer, has officially asked to be placed on the transfer list.

Whiteside is angry at his failure to secure an improved contract despite prolonged discussions with Alex Ferguson, the United manager, and has now declared his intention of severing his links with Old Trafford — possibly at the end of the season.

Whiteside's present contract expires in 14 months' time and he had been looking for a lengthy extension — possibly as much as five years.

But Ferguson, a man who believes that all footballers should prove their worth on a season to season basis, has refused to negotiate a new deal over the past few months, and with the two parties having reached an impasse the problem now seems destined to be resolved in the open transfer market.

Whiteside, a firm favourite with an Old Trafford public which has grown increasingly impatient for success on the Football League front over the past few years, is known to be angry at what he sees as preferential treatment afforded to the three players Ferguson has brought to the club since he took over as manager some 15 months ago.

Brian McClair and Steve Bruce have both signed long-term deals and Viv Anderson, the veteran England international defender, signed a contract when he joined from Arsenal which will tie him to the club until he is 35.

Despite being only 22, Belfast-born Whiteside, who joined United straight from school and worked his way up through the ranks, has played more than 200 league games and scored almost 50 goals.

If Whiteside's request is granted by the United board of directors it will undoubtedly lead to a scramble for his services with offers around the £1 million mark likely to be lodged by top clubs both at home and abroad.

Graeme Souness, the manager of Rangers, has already declared his interest in the ebullient Whiteside and several leading Italian sides are known to have been monitoring the situation with interest over the past few weeks.

Whiteside last night confirmed that he had asked for a move saying: "It is true, I have asked for a transfer but I don't want to say anything more at this stage. I am going to Belfast for a while."

Norwich block the Welsh

The Welsh FA were dealt another blow yesterday in their search for a manager for the national side when Norwich City withdrew the services of David Williams, their player-coach.

Williams took charge of the team for last week's international against Yugoslavia, but yesterday Robert Chase, the Norwich chairman, said: "We were pleased to make David available for last week's game, but we made it quite clear at the time that it was a one-off situation.

"If the Welsh secretary comes back to us to ask for his services again, we must regrettably say no. We see David's future here with Norwich and we cannot see that he can suitably combine duties at club and international level."

The Welsh FA had hoped Williams would at least be able to take Wales into their next international, against Sweden in Stockholm on April 27.

For his part, Williams accepted the decision. He said: "I couldn't do it part-time without one or the other suffering."

Oxford establish records at Boat Race weigh-in

Nine in a row: the Oxford University crew training on The Tideway after the official weigh-in yesterday for the 134th Boat Race on Saturday (Photograph: Peter Trievnor)

By Jim Railton

Oxford University will not only have a two-year advantage in age in the Boat Race on Saturday for their defence of the Beefeater Gin Trophy *but also the heaviest crew in the history of the race.* Oxford weighed in yesterday, averaging 14st 11½lb; *11 pounds heavier than Cambridge and that is a mighty advantage, if they apply the power efficiently.*

Cambridge will have an average of 14st and ½lb, the second heaviest Cambridge light blue crew of all time just one pound less than their losing crew in 1983. The aggregate weight of both crews in this year's 134th Boat Race is also a record. Oxford hold the edge in weight despite the sixth man Gavin Stewart weighing in at 16st 4lb — three pounds less than the record he established last year.

Two of the tallest competitors will feature this year. Gavin Stewart, of Oxford, holds the record at 6ft 8½in while Guy Pooley, of Cambridge, stands at 6ft 8in.

The good news for Cambridge yesterday was that Nicholas Grundy has recovered from a bout of tonsillitis, and will take his place in the crew for Saturday. Grundy was prominent yesterday when Cambridge undertook boat starts in the morning.

Oxford postponed a major outing against Isis until yesterday morning. Monday blues were almost shrugged off when Oxford, on the *Middlesex station,* racing from Putney pier to Chiswick Steps, gave their reserves just over a length start, drew level in just over one minute and despite a slight lapse at low rates, went out to victory by more than five lengths.

OXFORD: *H M Pelham (St Edward's, Oxford and Christ Church), bow, 13st 7½lb; *P Gleeson (St Martin's, Brentwood and Hertford), 15st 1lb; *R Hull (Wymondham, Robinson College, Cambridge and Oriel), 14st 7½lb; C G Penny (St Georges, Princeton University and St John's), 15st 13½lb; *T A D Cadoux-Hudson (Radley, St Mary's Hospital, London and New College), 14st 6lb; *G B Stewart (Bournemouth and Wadham), 16st 4lb; J W C Searle (Hampton and Christ Church), 13st 13lb; M Gaffney (Avon Old Farms, Connecticut, US Naval Academy and Hertford), stroke, 14st 13lb; *A D Lobbenberg (Shrewsbury and Balliol), cox, 8st 5lb. Average weight: 14st 11½lb.

CAMBRIDGE: R S N Ames (Eton and Trinity), bow, 14st 0½lb; M J K Smith (Shrewsbury and Magdalene), 14st 8lb; J C T Pepperell (Oundle and Sidney Sussex), 15st 2lb; *R A B Spink (Sherborne and Downing), 13st 12lb; *J R Garman (Shrewsbury and LMBC), 14st 6lb; G R Pooley (Berkhamsted, Imperial College and LMBC), 13st 7½lb; *N J Grundy (St Edward's, Oxford and Jesus), 12st 2½lb; *M J Brittin (Hampton and Robinson), stroke, 14st 7lb; S J Loveridge (Radley and Trinity), cox, 8st 11½lb. Average weight: 14st 0½lb.

*A Blue

ISIS: B Van-Every (Winchester and St John's), bow; D Neary (Hampton and St Peter's); G Cheveley (Tonbridge and Pembroke); J Cheadle (Oundle and University); S Berven (Lawrenceville, Stanford University and University); C MacLennan (King Edward VI, Birmingham and Keble); N Watkin (Liverpool College, Robinson College, *Cambridge and New College*); A Brooks (Clifton, Gonville and Caius, Cambridge and New College), stroke; S Groselle (King's, Ely and Pembroke), cox.

GOLDIE: P Barber (KCS Wimbledon and Emmanuel), bow; M Richardson (Tonbridge and Clare); D Hole (Sherborne and Selwyn); M Gore (Methodist College, Belfast and Jesus); P Mant (Cheltenham and Selwyn); W Mills (Winchester and St John's); L Taylor (Newcastle RGS and Pembroke); M Keeley (Melbourne GS, University College, Melbourne and Pembroke), stroke; L Ross-Magenty (Godolphin and Latymer and New Hall), cox.

Today's outings (from Putney): Oxford 9.30 a.m. and 3 p.m.; Cambridge 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Moynihan waits before acting on S Africa tour

By John Goodbody

The Government is hesitating about calling in representatives of the four home Rugby Unions to discuss the selection of British players for this summer's proposed World XV tour of South Africa, a visit which could provoke a boycott by black African nations of the Olympic Games.

Colin Moynihan, the Minister for Sport, is understood to be reluctant to act at the moment because no British players have been approached through the unions, and also because the players are going there as individuals, and not with representative teams.

However, I believe that when the South African Rugby Board (SARB) inevitably choose British players, then Moynihan will follow the example of his predecessors and be duty-bound, under the Gleneagles Declaration, to tell the unions of the Government's disapproval of sporting links with South Africa.

Amadou Lamine Ba, the secretary general of the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa, has told *The Times* in Morocco that there would be an Olympic boycott by up to 50 nations if efforts to stop the tour fail.

"We first appeal to the member countries of the International Rugby Football Board (IRFB) to withdraw," Lamine Ba said. "A boycott of the Games is the last card and we will not play it at the start. But if that in the end is the only option, we will play it. We will use everything at our disposal."

Moynihan will come under pressure from opposition parties to persuade the four home unions from sanctioning the visit to South Africa.

The Labour Party has always disapproved of sporting links with South Africa and yesterday, Menzies Campbell, the spokesman on sport for the Social Liberal Democrats and a former captain of the British athletics team, said: "I am disappointed with the Minister for Sport's rather neutral response. Sportsmen and women have got to realize that there is some interdependency between them.

"It is no longer possible to take a selfish attitude towards one's own aspirations when the consequences may be to destroy or reduce other people's aspirations. If Wales is really serious about staging the 1994 Commonwealth Games, then no Welshmen should go to South Africa and the other home unions should be pressed to do the same for their own players."

There is a limit to what the Government can do, short of withdrawing the passports of those individuals who are chosen. The four home unions do not even depend heavily on the Government's money for their administration.

However, the reaction in the Olympic movement was that the tour should not affect the Games. Michele Verdier, a spokeswoman for the International Olympic Committee in Lausanne, was limited to saying that the tour only concerns Rugby Union, which is not an Olympic sport.

In London, Charles Palmer, the chairman of the British Olympic Association, was asked by *The Times* whether it would seek a meeting with the four home unions. He replied: "No such proposal has ever been considered before, although the general purposes committee could consider it. The association has always believed it to be a futile exercise because we have no jurisdiction over rugby

"We can no more stop the four home unions from allowing players to go to South Africa than Mrs Thatcher could stop the British Olympic Association from sending a team to the Moscow Olympics."

World XV men's burden

By Michael Cleary

The International Rugby Football Board's decision to permit a World XV to tour South Africa this year — with an African boycott of the Seoul Olympics as a possible consequence — has placed a huge burden of responsibility on the players who may be invited to tour.

Most will agonize long and hard over their decision but Chris Oti, England's black winger, has already made his. His presence on the tour would be a great propaganda coup for those favouring links with South Africa and he said yesterday: "There's no way that I would go to South Africa to play rugby. I'd be delighted and honoured to be chosen to be part of a world squad but there's absolutely nothing that would change my viewpoint. Of course, it's a very sad situation because first and foremost I consider myself to be a sportsman and I don't want to make an issue of my colour, but at the same time I can't deny it."

Another who will not be making the trip, though for entirely different reasons, is Nigel Melville, England's captain until he broke a leg against Ireland 10 days ago. Even if he were fully fit, Melville is not certain what decision he would have made. "The whole issue is so dreadfully complicated. A large part of me says 'go' because I've never been and I've always believed that one should try to experience things at first hand before giving an opinion. I also believe that sport and politics should be separate.

"So much for my ideals. The reality of the matter is that in this situation sport and politics are inextricably linked. You just can't shut your eyes and say they aren't. Furthermore you can't just ignore the wider implications of your decision. The Olympics are the most important event in sport and we should be sensitive to that. In many ways, the timing of this announcement is all wrong and has now placed an unfair burden on those who will be approached to tour."

Two such players may be Jonathan Davies, the Wales fly-half, and Brendan Mullin, the Irish centre, both of whom have particular problems to consider. Davies is flying to Bermuda tomorrow to take part in an exhibition match. In order to get a visa for entry to the country he had to sign a letter disassociating himself from sporting links with South Africa, having once himself been on the United Nations blacklist.

Mullin's difficulty is unique. He has already expressed a firm desire to actually compete in this year's Olympics. His best time for the 110m hurdles is only just short of the qualifying standard for the Irish squad

RFU come under fire from Scots

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

The Rugby Football Union were criticised by their Scottish counterparts yesterday over the Calcutta Cup affair.

The damaged cup was displayed for the first time in Edinburgh and Bill Hogg, the SRU secretary, said his union was "extremely disappointed at the nominal action taken by the RFU" in banning Dean Richards for only one match — the millenium match with Ireland next month.

The SRU have made no amendment to the suspension until August 31 of John Jeffrey, the Kelso flanker who, with Richards, the Leicester No 8, was the prime mover in the incident which led to £1,000-worth of damage to the cup.

Onus on TCCB after Botham is fined £2,000

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

The strength of English cricket's loudly heralded hard line on players' conduct is about to undergo its first and sternest test. If all the worthy words and promises have any meaning, Peter May will soon be told that Ian Botham should be eliminated from his summer planning.

Sad and self-denying though it may be for the England team, how can there be any other honest outcome from the recent events in Australia, which climaxed yesterday with the Australian Cricket Board imposing fines totalling £2,000 on the man who apparently finds it impossible to stay out of trouble? The Australian authorities may not have finished with Botham yet; his three-year contract with Queensland comes under review today and may well be terminated with two years of it still to run.

The immediate response of the Test and County Cricket Board, having received a full report of Botham's Australian offences, was to announce that they would be taking no further action, presumably on the basis that a man cannot be punished twice for the same offence. This, however, does not preclude a directive to the selectors indicating that Botham should form no part in their thoughts for the demanding series against the West Indies.

Alan Smith, the Board chief executive, consulted rapidly with his chairman, Raman Subba Row, and with Peter Bromage, chairman of the disciplinary committee, before releasing a stark statement of no intent on the issue. "We note that Ian Botham has been dealt with by the Western Australia civil court and by the cricket authorities in Australia," Smith said. "In the circumstances, no further action will be taken under the disciplinary committee regulations."

The TCCB, whose executive committee is due to meet next week, may well have found themselves hampered by legal constraints, quite apart from any moral inhibitions on the score of foreign territory. The fact is, of course, that Botham's hooligan behaviour, both in a Tasmanian dressing-room and on a trans-Australian aircraft, was perpetrated while he was not under contract either to the TCCB or to his English county, Worcestershire. This is a complication, but it must not be a deterrent.

It is barely a month since the Board delegates drew themselves up to their full authoritative height and delivered the stricture that anyone who did not conduct themselves acceptably, on or off the field, could not be expected to play for England again.

Predictably, Botham himself is aggressively unrepentant about his position. "Anyone can blow the smallest molehill into a mountain," he has declared. "I would like to think the British public will judge me as the person they know and not the person they read about . . . " It is a familiar, hackneyed theme — the aggrieved superstar blaming the media for his troubles.

Pertinent comments came from Ron Archer, of the Queensland Code of Behaviour Commission. "I am cognisant of the fact that Ian Botham is a larger than life personality and as such attracts attention from the media and public some of which may be unfair. I am, however, convinced on this occasion his actions, while possibly exaggerated in the media, were extremely detrimental to the game of cricket."

He added that he had considered suspension and concluded: "If a similar breach of the code comes before me during the next season then Ian Botham will have a long holiday from the cricket fields of Australia."

Botham, apparently, "couldn't give a stuff", to use his own phrase. This is simply because he has too often run such risks in the past. The rules have changed now: if any England player, on the recently completed tour, had behaved in the fashion Botham has apparently now done twice, he would not have expected to play Test cricket again. It could still be that Botham, for all his bristling bravado, will need to come to terms with that possibility as he tramps the Alps in aid of charity — as ever, the impossible, infuriating mix of the kind heart and the head which will not learn.

● Dennis Lillee was fined A$1,800 by the Australian Cricket Board yesterday for his part in the dressing room incident.

END COLUMN

Lifting lid off Balkan wounds

By Chris Thau

The European weightlifting championships in Cardiff next month will see the re-emergence of the man who is, pound for pound, the strongest in the world: now he is named Naim Suleymanoglu, of Turkey; until two years ago, he was Naum Shalamanov, of Bulgaria.

Born in Bulgaria to a Turkish family named Suleimanov 20 years ago, he became the youngest world record-holder and junior champion at 14.

During the Bulgarisation waged against the ethnic Turks, Suleymanoglu was forced to change his name to Shalamanov. He then became the first lifter able to raise three times his own bodyweight above his head. He shook the sport when he broke the world record in the clean and jerk of the 60kg division with a heave of 180kg. He then registered 79 world records and was regarded invincible.

His defection in December 1986 in Melbourne, after winning the World Cup for an unprecedented third time, shocked Bulgaria and left Ivan Abagiev, his coach, inconsolable. Shalamanov had been worshipped in Bulgaria: virtually every national award and distinction, including the Hero of Socialist Labour title, was bestowed on him.

Weightlifting is Bulgaria's national sport and Shalamanov's decision to defect was so painful, the Bulgarians claimed he had been kidnapped by agents of the Turkish intelligence.

The treatment he received in Turkey made the Bulgarians angrier. Even before his arrival for the red carpet treatment in Ankara, Suleymanoglu was adopted by Turgut Ozal, the Turkish Prime Minister. He gave a series of well-publicized conferences denouncing the repression of Turks and spoke about tragedies and massacres. He gave the Bulgarisation programme as reason for his defection and request for political asylum.

Sofia was enraged. Century-old feuds re-emerged; exchanges between Bulgaria and Turkey became sharper; and the prospect of an understanding increasingly remote. The Balkans were smouldering again.

Suleymanoglu made no secret about wishing to compete for his adopted country. But he had to wait for a year, according to the International Weightlifting Federation eligibility rule.

Little of his prowess was heard and claims were made that he was unhappy with his training facilities and medical back-up. Yet the Turks spared no expense to please him, and a Swedish firm built him a gym fitted with the latest equipment, although he apparently resented the tight security. However, the arrival of another Bulgarian defector, also an ethnic Turk, Ilyas Sukruoglu, did a lot to improve his spirits.

He broke his own record in December in a competition in Antalya, but the IWF refused to ratify the total of 335kg because no drug-testing took place. Yet that performance showed that he was back to his best form. The European championships in Cardiff should confirm his invincible status as Bulgaria, hoping at first to boycott the competition over Suleymanoglu, were told by Gottfried Schodl, the IWF president, "As far as we are concerned, he is eligible to lift in any IWF competition."

At a recent Balkans conference, the Suleymanoglu issue was discussed and a dramatic improvement in relations between the countries paved the way for him to appear in Cardiff. However, it looks as if the Balkan detente does not extend to the Olympics. IWF sources suggest that Bulgaria still insist on his being barred from Seoul as they claim he was an Army officer at the time of his defection and therefore he should not be allowed to compete. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) executive will decide on Suleymanoglu's Olympic eligibility next month.

The sad outcome of this protracted tug-of-war could be that the greatest weightlifter of all time may never win an Olympic medal. In 1984, the world champion and record-holder, was prevented from taking part in Los Angeles through a Soviet-led boycott; now he may become a political victim again.

SPORT IN BRIEF

McEnroe declines

John McEnroe, the former world No. 1, has slipped to 25th in the latest Association of Tennis Professionals computer rankings. It is the first time in 10 years that McEnroe has dropped out of the top 20.

McEnroe: out of top 20

Title reward

Gary Cooper, the British light-middleweight boxing champion, will receive the biggest purse of his 10-year career, £13,500, when he defends his title against Gary Stretch at Portsmouth next month.

Roche back

Paris (AFP) — Stephen Roche, of Ireland, the world cycling champion, will make his race comeback on Monday in the Boucles Parisiennes.

Another ban

Ian Harrison, the Plymouth Albion lock, has been suspended by the club after he missed the coach for Albion's visit to Nuneaton in a Courage Clubs rugby union championship game on Saturday. He was also withdrawn by the club from the match against the Japanese touring team, Toshiba. Harrison was banned for 60 days earlier in the season after being sent off in the Devon-Gloucestershire county game.

Famous five

David Broome heads a five-pronged British challenge in the Rome and Lucerne Nation's Cup show jumping events on April 26 to 30 and May 12 to 15. Broome is joined by Nick Skelton, Robert Smith, Joe Turi and Michael Whitaker.

Master Lyle

Sandy Lyle has confirmed his entry for the £250,000 Dunhill British Masters at Woburn from July 2 to 5. Lyle will join Lee Trevino, Bernhard Langer, Ian Woosnam and the Open champion, Nick Faldo.

Tokyo hosts

Tokyo will host the 1989 Federation Cup women's team competition, the International Tennis Federation announced yesterday. The tournament will be staged from October 1 to 8.

Win a trip to Badminton

Tomorrow *The Times* features another exciting sports competition — this time the prize is a weekend at the Whitbread championships three-day event at Badminton, complete with first-class accommodation, two days at the event, tickets for an evening at the theatre, and a presentation hamper. Full details will be in *The Times* tomorrow.

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